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COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

REPORT ON THE THIRTY-THIRD SESSION

(8-17 February 1993)

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

OFFICIAL RECORDS, 1993

SUPPLEMENT No. 4

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Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures.

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SUMMARY

At its thirty-third session, the Commission for Social Development considered five main items: World Summit for Social Development; monitoring of international plans and programmes of action; a priority subject on the social consequences of population growth and changing social conditions, with particular emphasis on the family; programme questions; and review of the world social situation.

On the question of the World Summit for Social Development, the Commission adopted a draft resolution by which, having given consideration to the agenda for the Summit and to the question of holding an extraordinary session of the Commission dedicated solely to the question of the Summit before the first substantive session of the Preparatory Committee for the Summit in 1994, the Commission decided to transmit its conclusions, contained in the annex to the draft resolution, to the Economic and Social Council at the high-level segment of its substantive session of 1993 and to the Preparatory Committee for the Summit.

In reviewing the monitoring of international plans and programmes of action, the Commission recommended to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of four draft resolutions dealing with the question of disabled persons. In this regard, the Commission recommended that the Council transmit to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session the text of a draft resolution, by which, inter alia, the Assembly would reiterate the need to involve disabled persons and their organizations on all matters of concern to them, including the celebration of International Day of Disabled Persons.

By its resolution 1990/26, the Economic and Social Council requested the Commission to finalize the text of the standard rules on the equalization of opportunities for disabled children, youth and adults, for consideration by the Council in 1993 and for submission to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session. At its thirty-third session, the Commission completed its work on the standard rules and recommended to the Council the adoption of a draft resolution, by which the General Assembly, inter alia, was to adopt the Standard Rules, as set forth in the annex to the draft resolution. The Commission, recalling General Assembly resolution 45/91, also held a discussion on the long-term strategy to further the implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons, and recommended for adoption by the Council of a draft resolution, by which the Secretary-General, inter alia, was requested to develop a draft plan of action based on the views expressed by Member States on the framework outlined in the report of the Expert Group Meeting on a Long-term Strategy to Further the Implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons to the Year 2000 and Beyond.

The Commission, recognizing that the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons reflected the determination of the international community to ensure that the various international instruments and recommendations would be put to practical, concrete and effective use in improving the quality of life of persons with disabilities and their families and communities, also recommended for adoption by the Council of a draft resolution, by which the Secretary-General was urged to strengthen, through redeployment of resources, the programme on disabled persons and to report biennially to the General

Assembly on the progress of efforts to ensure the equalization of opportunities and full inclusion of people with disabilities within the various bodies of the United Nations system.

The Commission conducted the third review and appraisal of the International Plan of Action on Ageing and recommended to the Council the adoption of draft resolution, by which the Council, inter alia, would request the Secretary-General to draft a conceptual framework of a programme, at the national, regional and international levels, for the preparations for and observance of the International Year of Older Persons, and to submit it for consideration by the Commission for Social Development at its thirty-fourth session and by the General Assembly at its fiftieth session, in 1995. On the same subject, the Commission recommended for adoption by the Council of a draft decision, by which the Council would request the General Assembly to redesignate 1999 as International Year of the Elderly.

The Commission also recommended for adoption by the Council of a draft resolution on the International Year of the Family, by which the Council would transmit the draft resolution to the General Assembly for adoption at its forty-eighth session. By that draft resolution, the Assembly, inter alia, would decide to devote one of its plenary meetings at its forty-eighth session, in early December 1993, to launching the International Year of the Family, and would also decide that, beginning in 1994, 15 May of every year should be observed as International Day of Families.

The Commission considered the report of the Secretary-General containing the draft calendar of activities to mark the tenth anniversary of International Youth Year and the draft world programme of action for youth towards the year 2000 and beyond, and, in this context, recommended for adoption by the Council of a draft resolution, by which, inter alia, the Council would endorse the calendar of activities to mark the tenth anniversary of International Youth Year, as set out in the annex to that resolution. By the same draft resolution, the Council would call upon the Commission for Social Development to give priority attention at its thirty-fourth session to the refinement of the draft world programme of action for youth towards the year 2000 and beyond, with a view to formulating a final draft to be submitted to the Council in 1995 and to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session.

Also, under item 4 of its agenda, the Commission recommended that the Council transmit the text of a draft resolution on the contribution of comprehensive national social policies to societal management and to the solving of economic, environmental, demographic, cultural and political problems to the General Assembly for its consideration.

Finally, the Commission reviewed the report of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development, and recommended for adoption by the Council of a draft resolution by which Governments would be invited to make financial contributions to the Institute according to their capabilities, and, in the case of Governments that already support the Institute, to consider the possibility of increasing their contributions. The Commission nominated, for confirmation by the Council, five candidates for membership in the Board of the Institute.

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Chapter I

MATTERS CALLING FOR ACTION BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL OR BROUGHT TO ITS ATTENTION

A. Draft resolutions

1. The Commission for Social Development recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

International Day of Disabled Persons*

The Economic and Social Council

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

International Day of Disabled Persons

The General Assembly,

Recalling all its relevant resolutions, including resolution 37/52 of 3 December 1982, by which it adopted the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons, 1/ and resolution 37/53 of 3 December 1982, in which, *inter alia*, it proclaimed the period 1983-1992 the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons as a long-term plan of action,

Recalling also its request to the Secretary-General, made in its resolution 45/91 of 14 December 1990, to shift the focus of the United Nations programme on disability from awareness-raising to action, with the aim of achieving a society for all by the year 2010,

Recalling further its resolution 47/3 of 14 October 1992 proclaiming 3 December as the International Day of Disabled Persons,

Noting that, despite an appreciable increase in activities designed to enhance public awareness of the needs and circumstances of people with disabilities and of related issues, there continues to be a need for sustained efforts to overcome physical and social barriers to the full equality and participation of disabled persons,

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* For the discussion, see chap. III.

1/ A/37/351/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex, sect. VIII, recommendation 1 (IV).

Aware of the need for more vigorous and broader action and measures at all levels to fulfil the objectives of the Decade and the World Programme of Action,

Bearing in mind that the purpose of the World Programme of Action is to promote effective measures for prevention of disability, for rehabilitation and the realization of the goals of full participation of disabled persons in social life and development and of equality, which means opportunities equal to those of the entire population and an equal share in the improvement in living conditions resulting from social and economic development,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the number of Member States that celebrated the first International Day of Disabled Persons on 3 December 1992;

2. *Appeals* to all Governments to observe the International Day of Disabled Persons, using this opportunity to take the lead in awakening the consciousness of populations regarding the gains to be derived by individuals and society from the integration of disabled persons in every area of social, economic and political life;

3. *Reiterates the need* to involve disabled persons and their organizations in decisions on all matters of concern to them, including the celebration of the International Day of Disabled Persons;

4. *Invites* Member States to consider a way of linking, each year, the observance of the International Day of Disabled Persons with important United Nations events such as the World Conference on Human Rights, to be held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, the International Year of the Family, 1994, the International Conference on Population and Development, to be held at Cairo from 5 to 13 September 1994, the World Summit for Social Development, to be held in Denmark in 1995 and the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace, to be held at Beijing from 4 to 15 September 1995;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Commission for Social Development, at its thirty-fourth session, on measures taken by Member States to observe the International Day of Disabled Persons.

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities[*]

The Economic and Social Council

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

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[*] For the discussion, see chap. III.

Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities

The General Assembly,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/26 of 24 May 1990, in which the Council authorized the Commission for Social Development to consider, at its thirty-second session, the establishment of an ad hoc open-ended working group of government experts, funded by voluntary contributions, to elaborate standard rules on the equalization of opportunities for disabled children, youth and adults, in close collaboration with the specialized agencies, other intergovernmental bodies and non-governmental organizations, especially organizations of disabled persons, and in which it requested the Commission, should it establish such a working group, to finalize the text of those rules for consideration by the Council at its first regular session of 1993 and for submission to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session,

Also recalling that in its resolution 32/2 of 20 February 1991 the Commission for Social Development decided to establish an ad hoc open-ended working group of government experts in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/26, [2]

Taking note with appreciation of the participation of many States, specialized agencies, intergovernmental bodies and non-governmental organizations, especially organizations of disabled persons, in the deliberations of the working group,

Noting with appreciation the generous financial contributions of Member States to the working group,

Welcoming the fact that the working group was able to fulfil its mandate within three sessions of five working days each,

Acknowledging with appreciation the report of the ad hoc open-ended working group to elaborate standard rules on the equalization of opportunities for disabled persons, [3]

Taking note of the discussion of the Commission for Social Development at its thirty-third session on the draft standard rules, [4]

1. Adopts the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities, set forth in the annex to the present resolution;

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[2] See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1991, Supplement No. 6 (E/1991/26), chap. I, sect. D.

[3] E/CN.5/1993/5.

[4] See chap. III below.

2. *Requests* Member States to apply the Standard Rules in developing national disability programmes;

3. *Urges* Member States to meet the requests of the Special Rapporteur for information on the implementation of the Standard Rules;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to promote the implementation of the Standard Rules and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session;

5. *Urges* Member States to support, financially and otherwise, the implementation of the Standard Rules.

ANNEX

Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities

INTRODUCTION

Background and current needs
Previous international action
Towards standard rules
Purpose and content of the Standard Rules for the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities
Fundamental concepts in disability policy

PREAMBLE

I. PRECONDITIONS FOR EQUAL PARTICIPATION

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II. TARGET AREAS FOR EQUAL PARTICIPATION

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Rule 19. Personnel training
Rule 20. National monitoring and evaluation of disability programmes in the implementation of the Standard Rules
Rule 21. Technical and economic cooperation
Rule 22. International cooperation

IV. MONITORING MECHANISM

INTRODUCTION

Background and current needs

1. There are persons with disabilities in all parts of the world and at all levels in every society. The number of persons with disabilities in the world is large and is growing.

2. Both the causes and the consequences of disability vary throughout the world. These variations are the result of different socio-economic circumstances and of the different provisions that States make for the well-being of their citizens.

3. Present disability policy is the result of developments over the past 200 years. In many ways it reflects the general living conditions and social and economic policies of different times. In the disability field, however, there are also many specific circumstances which have influenced the living conditions of persons with disabilities. Ignorance, neglect, superstition and fear are social factors which throughout the history of disability have delayed the development of and isolated persons with disabilities.

4. Over the years disability policy developed from elementary care at institutions to education for children with disabilities and rehabilitation for persons who became disabled during adult life. Through education and rehabilitation, persons with disabilities became more active and a driving force in the further development of disability policy. Organizations of persons with disabilities, their families and advocates were formed, which advocated better conditions for persons with disabilities. After the Second World War the concepts of integration and normalization were introduced, which reflected a growing awareness of the capabilities of persons with disabilities.

5. Towards the end of the 1960s organizations of persons with disabilities in some countries started to formulate a new concept of disability. This new concept indicated the close connection between the limitation experienced by individuals with disabilities, the design and

structure of their environments and the attitude of the general population. At the same time the problems of disability in developing countries were more and more highlighted. In some of those countries the percentage of the population with disabilities was estimated to be very high and, for the most part, persons with disabilities were extremely poor.

Previous international action

6. The rights of persons with disabilities have been the subject of much attention in the United Nations and other international organizations over a long period of time. The most important outcome of the International Year of Disabled Persons, 1981, was the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons, 1/ adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 37/52. The International Year of Disabled Persons and the World Programme of Action provided a strong impetus for progress in the field. They both emphasized the right of persons with disabilities to the same opportunities as other citizens and to an equal share in the improvements in living conditions resulting from economic and social development. Here, also, for the first time, handicap was defined as a function of the relationship between persons with disabilities and their environment.

7. The Global Meeting of Experts to Review the Implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons at the Mid-Point of the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons was held at Stockholm in 1987. It was suggested at that Meeting that a guiding philosophy should be developed to indicate the priorities for action in the years ahead. The basis of this philosophy should be the recognition of the rights of persons with disabilities.

8. Consequently, the Meeting recommended that the General Assembly convene a special conference in order to draft an international convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against persons with disabilities, to be ratified by States by the end of the Decade.

9. A draft outline of the convention was prepared by Italy and presented to the General Assembly at its forty-second session. Further representations concerning a draft convention were made by Sweden at the forty-fourth session of the Assembly. However, on both occasions, no consensus could be reached on the suitability of such a convention. In the opinion of many representatives, existing human rights documents seemed to guarantee persons with disabilities the same rights as other persons.

Towards standard rules

10. Guided by the deliberations in the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council, at its first regular session of 1990, finally agreed to concentrate on the elaboration of an international instrument of a different kind. In its resolution 1990/26, the Council authorized the

Commission for Social Development to consider, at its thirty-second session, the establishment of an ad hoc open-ended working group of government experts, funded by voluntary contributions, to elaborate standard rules on the equalization of opportunities for disabled children, youth and adults, in close collaboration with the specialized agencies, other intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations, especially organizations of persons with disabilities themselves. The Council also requested the Commission to finalize the text of those rules for consideration in 1993 and for submission to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session.

11. The subsequent discussions in the Third Committee of the General Assembly at the forty-fifth session showed that there was wide support for the new initiative to elaborate standard rules on the equalization of opportunities for persons with disabilities.

12. At the thirty-second session of the Commission for Social Development, the initiative for standard rules received the support of a large number of representatives and discussions led to the adoption of resolution 32/2, in which it was decided to establish an ad hoc open-ended working group in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/26.

Purpose and content of the Standard Rules for the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities

13. The Standard Rules for the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities have been developed on the basis of the experience gained during the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons (1983-1992). 5/ The International Bill of Human Rights, comprising the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 6/ the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights 7/ and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 7/ the Convention on the Rights of the Child 8/ and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, 9/ as well as the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons, constitute the political and moral foundation for these Rules.

5/ Proclaimed by the General Assembly in its resolution 37/53.

6/ General Assembly resolution 217 A (III), annex.

7/ General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

8/ General Assembly resolution 44/25, annex.

9/ General Assembly resolution 34/180, annex.

14. Although these Rules are not compulsory, they can become international customary rules when they are applied by a great number of States with the intention of respecting a rule in international law. They imply a strong moral and political commitment on behalf of States to take action for the equalization of opportunities. Important principles for responsibility, action and cooperation are indicated. Areas of decisive importance for the quality of life and for the achievement of full participation and equality are pointed out. These Rules offer an instrument for policy-making and action to persons with disabilities and their organizations. They provide a basis for technical and economic cooperation among States, the United Nations and other international organizations.

15. The purpose of these Rules is to ensure that girls, boys, women and men with disabilities, as citizens of their societies, may exercise the same rights and obligations as others. In all societies of the world there are still obstacles preventing persons with disabilities from exercising their rights and freedoms and making it difficult for them to participate fully in the activities of their societies. It is the responsibility of States to take appropriate action to remove such obstacles. Persons with disabilities and their organizations should play an active role as partners in this process. The equalization of opportunities for persons with disabilities is an essential contribution in the general and world-wide effort to mobilize human resources. Special attention may need to be directed towards groups such as women, children, the elderly, the poor, migrant workers, persons with dual or multiple disabilities, indigenous persons and ethnic minorities. In addition, there are a large number of refugees with disabilities with special needs which require attention.

Fundamental concepts in disability policy

16. The following concepts appear throughout. They are basically built on the concepts in the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons. In some cases they reflect the development which has taken place during the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons.

Disability and handicap

17. The term "disability" summarizes a great number of different functional limitations occurring in any population in all countries of the world. People may be disabled by physical, intellectual or sensory impairment, medical conditions or mental illness. Such impairments, conditions or illnesses may be permanent or transitory in nature.

18. Handicap is the loss or limitation of opportunities to take part in the life of the community on an equal level with others. The term "handicap" describes the encounter between the person with a disability and the environment. The purpose of this term is to emphasize the focus on the shortcomings in the environment and in many organized activities in society, for example, information, communication and education, which prevent persons with disabilities from participating on equal terms.

19. This use of the two terms disability and handicap should be seen in the light of modern disability history. During the 1970s there was a strong reaction among representatives of organizations of persons with disabilities and professionals in the field of disability against the terminology of the time. The terms disability and handicap were often used in an unclear and confusing way, which gave poor guidance for policy-making and for political action. The terminology reflected a medical and diagnostic approach, which ignored the imperfections and deficiencies of the surrounding society.

20. In 1980, the World Health Organization adopted an international classification of impairment, disability and handicap (ICIDH), which suggested a more precise and at the same time relativistic approach. This classification makes a clear distinction between impairment, disability and handicap. ICIDH has been extensively used in areas such as rehabilitation, education, statistics, policy, legislation, demography, sociology, economics and anthropology. Some users have expressed concern that ICIDH, in its definition of the term handicap, may still be considered too medical and too centred on the individual, and may not adequately clarify the interaction between societal conditions or expectations and the abilities of the individual. These concerns, and others which have been expressed by users over the past 12 years since the publication of ICIDH, will be addressed in forthcoming revisions of ICIDH.

21. Based on experiences in connection with the implementation of the World Programme of Action and on the general discussion which occurred during the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons, there was a deepening of knowledge and extension of understanding concerning disability issues and the terminology used. Current terminology recognizes the necessity of addressing both the individual needs (such as rehabilitation and technical aids) and the shortcomings of the society (various obstacles for participation).

Prevention

22. Prevention means action aimed at preventing the occurrence of physical, intellectual, psychiatric or sensory impairments (primary prevention) or at preventing impairments from causing a permanent functional limitation or disability (secondary prevention). Prevention may include many different types of action such as primary health care, prenatal and postnatal child care, education in nutrition, immunization campaigns against communicable diseases, measures to control endemic diseases, safety regulations, programmes for the prevention of accidents in different environments, including adaptation of workplaces to prevent occupational disabilities and diseases, and prevention of disability which results from pollution of the environment or armed conflict.

Rehabilitation

23. Rehabilitation is a process aimed at enabling persons with disabilities to reach and maintain their optimal physical, sensory, intellectual, psychiatric and/or social functional levels, thus providing them with the tools to change their lives towards a higher level of

independence. Rehabilitation may include measures to provide and/or restore functions, or compensate for the loss or absence of a function or for a functional limitation. The rehabilitation process does not involve initial medical care. It includes a wide range of measures and activities from more basic and general rehabilitation to goal-oriented activities, for instance vocational rehabilitation.

Equalization of opportunities

24. Equalization of opportunities means the process through which the various systems of society and the environment, such as services, activities, information and documentation, are made available to all, particularly to persons with disabilities.

25. The principle of equal rights implies that the needs of each and every individual are of equal importance, that these needs must be made the basis for the planning of societies and that all resources must be employed in such a way as to ensure that every individual has equal opportunity for participation.

26. Persons with disabilities are members of society and have the right to remain within their local communities. They should receive the support they need within the ordinary structures of education, health, employment and social services.

27. As persons with disabilities achieve equal rights, they should also have equal obligations. As these rights are being achieved, societies should raise their expectations of persons with disabilities. As part of the process of equal opportunities, provision should be made to assist persons with disabilities to assume their full responsibility as members of society.

PREAMBLE

Mindful of the pledge made by States, under the Charter of the United Nations, to take joint and separate action in cooperation with the Organization to promote higher standards of living, full employment and conditions of economic and social progress and development,

Reaffirming the commitment to human rights and fundamental freedoms, social justice and the dignity and worth of the human person proclaimed in the Charter,

Recalling in particular the international standards on human rights which have been laid down in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,

Noting that these instruments proclaim that the rights recognized therein should be ensured equally to all individuals without discrimination, *Recalling* the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, 8/ which prohibit discrimination on the basis of disability and require special measures to ensure the rights of children with disabilities, and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, 10/ which provides for some protective measures against disability,

Recalling also the provisions in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women to ensure the rights of girls and women with disabilities,

Having regard to the Declaration on the Rights of Disabled Persons, 11/ the Declaration on the Rights of Mentally Retarded Persons, 12/ the Declaration on Social Progress and Development, 13/ the Principles for the Protection of Persons with Mental Illness and for the Improvement of Mental Health Care, 14/ and other relevant instruments adopted by the General Assembly,

Also having regard to the relevant conventions and recommendations adopted by the International Labour Organisation, with particular reference to participation in employment without discrimination for persons with disabilities,

Mindful of the relevant recommendations and work of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in particular the World Declaration on Education for All, 15/ the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund and other concerned organizations,

Having regard to the commitment made by States concerning the protection of the environment,

Mindful of the devastation caused by armed conflict and deploring the use of scarce resources in the production of weapons,

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10/ General Assembly resolution 45/158, annex.

11/ General Assembly resolution 3447 (XXX).

12/ General Assembly resolution 2856 (XXVI).

13/ General Assembly resolution 2542 (XXIV).

14/ General Assembly resolution 46/119, annex.

15/ *Final Report of the World Conference on Education for All: Meeting Basic Learning Needs, Jomtien, Thailand, 5-9 March 1990*, Inter-Agency Commission (UNDP, UNESCO, UNICEF, World Bank) for the World Conference on Education for All, New York, 1990, appendix 1.

Recognizing that the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons and the definition therein of "equalization of opportunities" represent earnest ambitions by the international community to render these various international instruments and recommendations of practical and concrete significance,

Acknowledging that the objective of the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons (1983-1992) to implement the World Programme of Action is still valid, and requires urgent and continued action,

Recalling that the World Programme of Action is based on concepts which are equally valid in developing as well as industrialized countries,

Convinced that intensified efforts are needed to achieve the full and equal enjoyment of human rights and participation in society by persons with disabilities,

Re-emphasizing that persons with disabilities, their parents, guardians, advocates and organizations, must be active partners with States in the planning and implementation of all measures affecting their civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights,

Complying with Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/26, and basing themselves on the detailed enumeration in the World Programme of Action of specific measures required for the attainment by persons with disabilities of equality with others,

States have adopted the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Disabled Persons outlined below in order:

(a) To stress that all action in the field of disability presupposes adequate knowledge and experience of the conditions and special needs of persons with disabilities;

(b) To emphasize that the process through which every aspect of societal organization is made accessible to all is a basic objective of socio-economic development;

(c) To outline crucial aspects of social policies in the field of disability, including, as appropriate, the active encouragement of technical and economic cooperation;

(d) To provide models for the political decision-making process required for the attainment of equal opportunities, bearing in mind the widely differing technical and economic levels, the fact that the process must reflect keen understanding of the cultural context within which it takes place and the crucial role of persons with disabilities in it;

(e) To propose national mechanisms for close collaboration among States, the organs of the United Nations system, other intergovernmental bodies and organizations of persons with disabilities;

(f) To propose an effective machinery for monitoring the process by which States seek to attain the equalization of opportunities for persons with disabilities.

I. PRECONDITIONS FOR EQUAL PARTICIPATION

Rule 1. Awareness-raising

States should take action to raise awareness in society about persons with disabilities, their rights, their needs, their potential and their contribution.

1. States should ensure that responsible authorities distribute up-to-date information on available programmes and services to persons with disabilities, their families, professionals in this field and the general public. Information to persons with disabilities should be presented in accessible form.

2. States should initiate and support information campaigns concerning persons with disabilities and disability policies, conveying the message that persons with disabilities are citizens with the same rights and obligations as others, thus justifying measures to remove all obstacles to full participation.

3. States should encourage the portrayal of persons with disabilities by the mass media in a positive way; organizations of persons with disabilities should be consulted on this matter.

4. States should ensure that public education programmes reflect in all their aspects the principle of full participation and equality.

5. States should invite persons with disabilities and their families and organizations to participate in public education programmes concerning disability matters.

6. States should encourage enterprises in the private sector to include disability issues in all aspects of their activity.

7. States should initiate and promote programmes aimed at raising the level of awareness of persons with disabilities concerning their rights and potential. Increased self-reliance and empowerment will assist persons with disabilities to take advantage of the opportunities available to them.

8. Awareness-raising should be an important part of the education of children with disabilities and in rehabilitation programmes. Persons with disabilities could also assist one another in awareness-raising through the activities of their own organizations.

9. Awareness-raising should be part of the education of all children and should be a component of teacher-training courses and training of all professionals.

Rule 2. Medical care

States should ensure the provision of effective medical care to persons with disabilities.

1. States should work towards the provision of programmes run by multidisciplinary teams of professionals for early detection, assessment and treatment of impairment. This could prevent, reduce or eliminate disabling effects. Such programmes should ensure the full participation of persons with disabilities and their families at the individual level, and of organizations of persons with disabilities at the planning and evaluation level.

2. Local community workers should be trained to participate in areas such as early detection of impairments, the provision of primary assistance and referral to appropriate services.

3. States should ensure that persons with disabilities, particularly infants and children, are provided with the same level of medical care within the same system as other members of society.

4. States should ensure that all medical and paramedical personnel are adequately trained and equipped to give medical care to persons with disabilities and that they have access to relevant treatment methods and technology.

5. States should ensure that medical, paramedical and related personnel are adequately trained so that they do not give inappropriate advice to parents, thus restricting options for their children. This training should be an ongoing process and should be based on the latest information available.

6. States should ensure that persons with disabilities are provided with any regular treatment and medicines they may need to preserve or improve their level of functioning.

Rule 3. Rehabilitation*

States should ensure the provision of rehabilitation services to persons with disabilities in order for them to reach and sustain their optimum level of independence and functioning.

1. States should develop national rehabilitation programmes for all groups of persons with disabilities. Such programmes should be based on the actual individual needs of persons with disabilities and on the principles of full participation and equality.

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* Rehabilitation is a fundamental concept in disability policy and is defined above in paragraph 23 of the introduction.

2. Such programmes should include a wide range of activities, such as basic skills training to improve or compensate for an affected function, counselling of persons with disabilities and their families, developing self-reliance, and occasional services such as assessment and guidance.

3. All persons with disabilities, including persons with severe and/or multiple disabilities, who require rehabilitation should have access to it.

4. Persons with disabilities and their families should be able to participate in the design and organization of rehabilitation services concerning themselves.

5. All rehabilitation services should be available in the local community where the person with disabilities lives. However, in some instances, in order to attain a certain training objective, special time-limited rehabilitation courses may be organized, where appropriate, in residential form.

6. Persons with disabilities and their families should be encouraged to involve themselves in rehabilitation, for instance as trained teachers, instructors or counsellors.

7. States should draw upon the expertise of organizations of persons with disabilities when formulating or evaluating rehabilitation programmes.

Rule 4. Support services

States should ensure the development and supply of support services including assistive devices for persons with disabilities, to assist them to increase their level of independence in their daily living and to exercise their rights.

1. States should ensure the provision of assistive devices and equipment, personal assistance and interpreter services, according to the needs of persons with disabilities, as important measures to achieve the equalization of opportunities.

2. States should support the development, production, distribution and servicing of assistive devices and equipment and the dissemination of knowledge about them.

3. To achieve this, generally available technical know-how should be utilized. In States where high-technology industry is available, it should be fully utilized to improve the standard and effectiveness of assistive devices and equipment. It is important to stimulate the development and production of simple and inexpensive devices, when possible using local material and local production facilities. Persons with disabilities themselves could be involved in the production of these devices.

4. States should recognize that all persons with disabilities who need assistive devices should have access to them as appropriate, including financial accessibility. This may mean that assistive devices and equipment should be provided free of charge or at such a low price that persons with disabilities or their families can afford to buy them.

5. In rehabilitation programmes for the provision of assistive devices and equipment, States should consider the special requirements of girls and boys with disabilities concerning the design, durability and age-appropriateness of assistive devices and equipment.

6. States should support the development and provision of personal assistance programmes and interpretation services, especially for persons with severe and/or multiple disabilities. Such programmes would increase the level of participation of persons with disabilities in everyday life, at home, at work, in school and during leisure-time activities.

7. Personal assistance programmes should be designed in such a way that the persons with disabilities using the programmes have a decisive influence on the way in which the programmes are delivered.

II. TARGET AREAS FOR EQUAL PARTICIPATION

Rule 5. Accessibility

States should recognize the overall importance of accessibility in the process of the equalization of opportunities in all spheres of society. For persons with disabilities of any kind, States should (a) introduce programmes of action to make the physical environment accessible; and (b) undertake measures to provide access to information and communication.

(a) Access to the physical environment

1. States should initiate measures to remove the obstacles to participation in the physical environment. Such measures should be to develop standards and guidelines and to consider enacting legislation to ensure accessibility to various areas in society, for instance concerning housing, buildings, public transport services and other means of transportation, streets and other outdoor environments.

2. States should ensure that architects, construction engineers and others who are professionally involved in the design and construction of the physical environment have access to adequate information on disability policy and measures to achieve accessibility.

3. Accessibility requirements should be included in the design and construction of the physical environment from the beginning of the designing process.

4. Organizations of persons with disabilities should be consulted when developing standards and norms for accessibility. They should also be involved locally from the initial planning stage when public construction projects are being designed, thus ensuring maximum accessibility.

(b) Access to information and communication

5. Persons with disabilities and, where appropriate, their families and advocates should have access to full information on diagnosis, rights and available services and programmes, at all stages. Such information should be presented in forms accessible to people with disabilities.

6. States should develop strategies to make information services and documentation accessible for different groups of people with disabilities. Braille, tape services, large print and other appropriate technologies should be used to provide access to written information and documentation for persons with visual impairments. Similarly, appropriate technologies should be used to provide access to spoken information for persons with auditory impairments or comprehension difficulties.

7. Consideration should be given to the use of sign language in the education of deaf children, in their families and communities. Sign language interpretation services should also be provided to facilitate the communication between deaf persons and others.

8. Consideration should also be given to the needs of people with other communication disabilities.

9. States should encourage the media, especially television, radio and newspapers, to make their services accessible.

10. States should ensure that new computerized information and service systems offered to the general public are either made initially accessible or are adapted to be made accessible to persons with disabilities.

11. Organizations of persons with disabilities should be consulted when developing measures to make information services accessible.

Rule 6. Education

States should recognize the principle of equal primary, secondary and tertiary educational opportunities for children, youth and adults with disabilities, in integrated settings. They should ensure that the education of persons with disabilities is an integral part of the educational system.

1. General educational authorities are responsible for the education of persons with disabilities in integrated settings. Education for persons with disabilities should form an integral part of national educational planning, curriculum development and school organization.

2. Education in mainstream schools presupposes the provision of interpreter and other appropriate support services. Adequate accessibility and support services, designed to meet the needs of persons with different disabilities, should be provided.

3. Parent groups and organizations of persons with disabilities should be involved in the education process at all levels.

4. In States where education is compulsory it should be provided to girls and boys with all kinds and all levels of disabilities, including the most severe.

5. Special attention should be given in the following areas:

(a) Very young children with disabilities;

(b) Pre-school children with disabilities;

(c) Adults with disabilities, particularly women.

6. To accommodate educational provisions for persons with disabilities in the mainstream, States should:

(a) Have a clearly stated policy, understood and accepted at the school level and by the wider community;

(b) Allow for curriculum flexibility, addition and adaptation;

(c) Provide for quality materials, ongoing teacher training and support teachers.

7. Integrated education and community-based programmes should be seen as complementary approaches in providing cost-effective education and training for persons with disabilities. National community-based programmes should encourage communities to use and develop their resources to provide local education to persons with disabilities.

8. In situations where the general school system does not yet adequately meet the needs of all persons with disabilities, special education may be considered. It should be aimed at preparing students for education in the general school system. The quality of such education should reflect the same standards and ambitions as general education and should be closely linked to it. At a minimum, students with disabilities should be afforded the same portion of educational resources as students without disabilities. States should aim for the gradual integration of special education services with mainstream education. It is acknowledged that in some instances special education may currently be considered to be the most appropriate form of education for some students with disabilities.

9. Owing to the particular communication needs of deaf and deaf/blind persons, their education may be more suitably provided in schools for such persons or special classes and units in mainstream schools. At the initial stage, in particular, special attention needs to be focused on

culturally sensitive instruction that will result in effective communication skills and maximum independence for people who are deaf or deaf/blind.

Rule 7: Employment

States should recognize the principle that persons with disabilities must be empowered to exercise their human rights, particularly in the field of employment. In both rural and urban areas they must have equal opportunities for productive and gainful employment in the labour market.

1. Laws and regulations in the employment field must not discriminate against persons with disabilities and must not raise obstacles to their employment.

2. States should actively support the integration of persons with disabilities into open employment. This active support could occur through a variety of measures, such as vocational training, incentive-oriented quota schemes, reserved or designated employment, loans or grants for small business, exclusive contracts or priority production rights, tax concessions, contract compliance or other technical or financial assistance to enterprises employing workers with disabilities. States should also encourage employers to make reasonable adjustments to accommodate persons with disabilities.

3. States' action programmes should include:

(a) Measures to design and adapt workplaces and work premises in such a way that they become accessible for persons with different disabilities;

(b) Support for the use of new technologies and the development and production of assistive devices, tools and equipment and measures to facilitate access to such devices and equipment for persons with disabilities, to enable them to gain and maintain employment;

(c) Provision of appropriate training and placement and ongoing support such as personal assistance and interpreter services.

4. States should initiate and support public awareness-raising campaigns designed to overcome negative attitudes and prejudices concerning workers with disabilities.

5. In their capacity as employers, States should create favourable conditions for the employment of persons with disabilities in the public sector.

6. States, workers' organizations and employers should cooperate to ensure equitable recruitment and promotion policies, employment conditions, rates of pay, measures to improve the work environment in order to prevent injuries and impairments and measures for the rehabilitation of employees who have sustained employment-related injuries.

7. The aim should always be for persons with disabilities to obtain employment in the open labour market. For persons with disabilities whose needs cannot be met in open employment, small units of sheltered or supported employment may be an alternative. It is important that the quality of such programmes be assessed in terms of their relevance and sufficiency in providing opportunities for persons with disabilities to gain employment in the labour market.

8. Measures should be taken to include persons with disabilities in training and employment programmes in the private and informal sectors.

9. States, workers' organizations and employers should cooperate with organizations of persons with disabilities concerning all measures to create training and employment opportunities, including flexible hours, part-time work, job-sharing, self-employment and attendant care for persons with disabilities.

Rule 8. Income maintenance and social security

States are responsible for the provision of social security and income maintenance for persons with disabilities.

1. States should ensure the provision of adequate income support to persons with disabilities who, owing to disability or disability-related factors, have temporarily lost or received a reduction in their income or have been denied employment opportunities. States should ensure that the provision of support takes into account the costs frequently incurred by persons with disabilities and their families as a result of the disability.

2. In countries where social security, social insurance or other social welfare schemes exist or are being developed for the general population, States should ensure that such systems do not exclude or discriminate against persons with disabilities.

3. States should also ensure the provision of income support and social security protection to individuals who undertake the care of a person with a disability.

4. Social security systems should include incentives to restore the income-earning capacity of persons with disabilities. Such systems should provide or contribute to the organization, development and financing of vocational training. They should also assist with placement services.

5. Social security programmes should also provide incentives for persons with disabilities to seek employment in order to establish or re-establish their income-earning capacity.

6. Income support should be maintained as long as the disabling conditions remain in a manner that does not discourage persons with disabilities from seeking employment. It should only be reduced or terminated when persons with disabilities achieve adequate and secure income.

7. States, in countries where social security is to a large extent provided by the private sector, should encourage local communities, welfare organizations and families to develop self-help measures and incentives for employment or employment-related activities for persons with disabilities.

Rule 9. Family life and personal integrity

States should promote the full participation of persons with disabilities in family life. They should promote their right to personal integrity, and ensure that laws do not discriminate against persons with disabilities with respect to sexual relationships, marriage and parenthood.

1. Persons with disabilities should be enabled to live with their families. States should encourage the inclusion in family counselling of appropriate modules regarding disability and its effects on family life. Respite-care and attendant-care services should be made available to families which include a person with disabilities. States should remove all unnecessary obstacles to persons who want to foster or adopt a child or adult with disabilities.

2. Persons with disabilities must not be denied the opportunity to experience their sexuality, have sexual relationships and experience parenthood. Taking into account that persons with disabilities may experience difficulties in getting married and setting up a family, States should encourage the availability of appropriate counselling. Persons with disabilities must have the same access as others to family-planning methods, as well as to information in accessible form on the sexual functioning of their bodies.

3. States should promote measures to change negative attitudes towards marriage, sexuality and parenthood of people with disabilities, especially of girls and women with disabilities, which still prevail in society. The media should be encouraged to play an important role in removing such negative attitudes.

4. Persons with disabilities and their families need to be fully informed about taking precautions against sexual and other forms of abuse. Persons with disabilities are particularly vulnerable to abuse in the family, community or institutions and need to be educated on how to avoid the occurrence of abuse, recognize when abuse has occurred and report on such acts.

Rule 10. Culture

States will ensure that persons with disabilities are integrated into and can participate in cultural activities on an equal basis.

1. States should ensure that persons with disabilities have the opportunity to utilize their creative, artistic and intellectual potential, not only for their own benefit, but also for the enrichment of their community, be they in urban or rural areas. Examples of such activities are dance, music, literature, theatre, plastic arts, painting and sculpture. Particularly in developing countries, emphasis should be placed on traditional and contemporary art forms, such as puppetry, recitation and story-telling.

2. States should promote the accessibility to and availability of places for cultural performances and services, such as theatres, museums, cinemas and libraries, to persons with disabilities.

3. States should initiate the development and use of special technical arrangements to make literature, films and theatre accessible to persons with disabilities.

Rule 11. Recreation and sports

States will take measures to ensure that persons with disabilities have equal opportunities for recreation and sports.

1. States should initiate measures to make places for recreation and sports, hotels, beaches, sports arenas, gym halls etc. accessible to persons with disabilities. These measures should encompass support for staff in recreation and sports programmes, including projects to develop methods of accessibility, and participation, information and training programmes.

2. Tourist authorities, travel agencies, hotels, voluntary organizations and others involved in organizing recreational activities or travel opportunities should offer their services to all, taking into account the special needs of persons with disabilities. Suitable training should occur to assist this process.

3. Sports organizations should be encouraged to develop opportunities for participation by persons with disabilities in sports activities. In some cases, accessibility measures could be enough to open up opportunities for participation. In other cases, special arrangements or special games would be needed. States should support the participation of persons with disabilities in national and international events.

4. Persons with disabilities participating in sports activities should have access to instruction and training of the same quality as other participants.

5. Organizers of sports and recreation should consult with organizations of persons with disabilities when developing their services for persons with disabilities.

Rule 12. Religion

States will encourage measures for equal participation by persons with disabilities in the religious life of their communities.

1. States should encourage, in consultation with religious authorities, measures to eliminate discrimination and make religious activities accessible to persons with disabilities.

2. States should encourage information on disability matters to be distributed to religious institutions and organizations. States should also encourage religious authorities to include information on disability policies in the training for religious professions, as well as in religious education programmes.

3. They should also encourage the accessibility of religious literature to persons with sensory impairments.

4. States and/or religious organizations should consult with organizations of persons with disabilities when developing measures for equal participation in religious activities.

III. IMPLEMENTATION MEASURES

Rule 13. Information and research

States assume the ultimate responsibility for the collection and dissemination of information on the living conditions of persons with disabilities and promote comprehensive research on all aspects, including obstacles which affect the lives of persons with disabilities.

1. States should, at regular intervals, collect gender-specific statistics and other information concerning the living conditions of persons with disabilities. Such data collection could be conducted in conjunction with national censuses and household surveys and could be undertaken in close collaboration, *inter alia*, with universities, research institutes and organizations of persons with disabilities. The data collection should include questions on programmes and services and their use.

2. States should consider establishing a data bank on disability, which would include statistics on available services and programmes as well as on the different groups of persons with disabilities. They should bear in mind the need to protect individual privacy and personal integrity.

3. States should initiate and support programmes of research on social, economic and participation issues that affect the lives of persons with disabilities and their families. Such research should include studies on

the causes, types and frequencies of disabilities, the availability and efficacy of existing programmes and the need for development and evaluation of services and support measures.

4. States should develop and adopt terminology and criteria for the conduct of national surveys, in cooperation with organizations of persons with disabilities.

5. States should facilitate the participation of persons with disabilities in data collection and research. To undertake such research States should particularly encourage the recruitment of qualified persons with disabilities.

6. States should support the exchange of research findings and experiences.

7. States should take measures to disseminate information and knowledge on disability to all political and administration levels within national, regional and local spheres.

Rule 14. Policy-making and planning

States will ensure that disability aspects are included in all relevant policy-making and national planning.

1. States should initiate and plan adequate policies for persons with disabilities at the national level, and stimulate and support action at regional and local levels.

2. States should involve organizations of persons with disabilities in all decision-making relating to plans and programmes concerning persons with disabilities or affecting their economic and social status.

3. The needs and concerns of persons with disabilities should be incorporated into general development plans and not be treated separately.

4. The ultimate responsibility of States for the situation of persons with disabilities does not relieve others of their responsibility. Anyone in charge of services, activities or the provision of information in society should be encouraged to accept responsibility for making such programmes available to persons with disabilities.

5. States should facilitate the development by local communities of programmes and measures for persons with disabilities. One way of doing this could be to develop manuals or check-lists and provide training programmes for local staff.

Rule 15. Legislation

States have a responsibility to create the legal bases for measures to achieve the objectives of full participation and equality for persons with disabilities.

1. National legislation, embodying the rights and obligations of citizens, should include the rights and obligations of persons with disabilities. States are under an obligation to enable persons with disabilities to exercise their rights, including their human, civil and political rights, on an equal basis with other citizens. States must ensure that organizations of persons with disabilities are involved in the development of national legislation concerning the rights of persons with disabilities, as well as in the ongoing evaluation of this legislation.

2. Legislative action may be needed to remove conditions which may adversely affect the lives of persons with disabilities, including harassment and victimization. Any discriminatory provisions against persons with disabilities must be eliminated. National legislation should provide for appropriate sanctions in case of violations of the principles of non-discrimination.

3. National legislation concerning persons with disabilities may appear in two different forms. The rights and obligations may be incorporated in general legislation or contained in special legislation. Special legislation for persons with disabilities may be established in several ways:

(a) By enacting separate legislation, exclusively dealing with disability matters;

(b) By including disability matters within legislation on particular topics;

(c) By mentioning persons with disabilities specifically in the texts that serve to interpret existing legislation.

A combination of these different approaches might be desirable. Affirmative action provisions may also be considered.

4. States may consider establishing formal statutory complaints mechanisms in order to protect the interests of persons with disabilities.

Rule 16. Economic policies

States have the financial responsibility for national programmes and measures to create equal opportunities for persons with disabilities.

1. States should include disability matters in the regular budgets of all national, regional and local government bodies.

2. States, non-governmental organizations and other interested bodies should interact to determine the most effective ways of supporting projects and measures relevant to persons with disabilities.

3. States should consider the use of economic measures (loans, tax exemptions, earmarked grants, special funds etc.) to stimulate and support equal participation by persons with disabilities in society.

4. In many States it may be advisable to establish a disability development fund, which could support various pilot projects and self-help programmes at the grass-roots level.

Rule 17. Coordination of work

States are responsible for the establishment and strengthening of national coordinating committees, or similar bodies, to serve as a national focal point on disability matters.

1. The national coordinating committee or similar bodies should be permanent and based on legal as well as appropriate administrative regulation.

2. A combination of representatives of private and public organizations is most likely to achieve an intersectoral and multidisciplinary composition. Representatives could be drawn from concerned government ministries, organizations of persons with disabilities and non-governmental organizations.

3. Organizations of persons with disabilities should have considerable influence in the national coordinating committee in order to ensure proper feedback of their concerns.

4. The national coordinating committee should be provided with sufficient autonomy and resources to fulfil its responsibilities in relation to its decision-making capacities. It should report to the highest governmental level.

Rule 18. Organizations of persons with disabilities

States should recognize the right of the organizations of persons with disabilities to represent persons with disabilities at national, regional and local levels. States should also recognize the advisory role of organizations of persons with disabilities in decision-making on disability matters.

1. States should encourage and support economically and in other ways the formation and strengthening of organizations of persons with disabilities, family members and/or advocates. States should recognize that these organizations have a role to play in the development of disability policy.

2. States should establish ongoing communication with organizations of persons with disabilities and ensure their participation in the development of government policies.

3. The role of organizations of persons with disabilities could be to identify needs and priorities, to participate in the planning, implementation and evaluation of services and measures concerning the lives of persons with disabilities, and to contribute to public awareness and to advocate change.

4. As instruments of self-help, organizations of persons with disabilities provide and promote opportunities for the development of skills in various fields, mutual support among members and information sharing.

5. Organizations of persons with disabilities could perform their advisory role in many different ways such as having permanent representation on boards of government-funded agencies, serving on public commissions and providing expert knowledge on different projects.

6. The advisory role of organizations of persons with disabilities should be ongoing in order to develop and deepen the exchange of views and information between the State and the organizations.

7. Organizations should be permanently represented on the national coordinating committee or similar bodies.

8. The role of local organizations of persons with disabilities should be developed and strengthened to ensure that they influence matters at the community level.

Rule 19. Personnel training

States are responsible for ensuring the adequate training of personnel, at all levels, involved in the planning and provision of programmes and services concerning persons with disabilities.

1. States should ensure that all authorities providing services in the disability field give adequate training to their personnel.

2. In the training of professionals in the disability field, as well as in the provision of information on disability in general training programmes, the principle of full participation and equality should be appropriately reflected.

3. States should develop training programmes in consultation with organizations of persons with disabilities, and persons with disabilities should be involved as teachers, instructors or advisers in staff training programmes.

4. The training of community workers is of great strategic importance, particularly in developing countries. It should involve persons with disabilities and include the development of appropriate values, competence and technologies as well as skills which can be practised by persons with disabilities, their parents, families and members of the community.

Rule 20. National monitoring and evaluation of disability programmes in the implementation of the Standard Rules

States are responsible for the continuous monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of national programmes and services concerning the equalization of opportunities for persons with disabilities.

1. States should periodically and systematically evaluate national disability programmes and disseminate both the bases and the results of the evaluations.

2. States should develop and adopt terminology and criteria for the evaluation of disability-related programmes and services.

3. Such criteria and terminology should be developed in close cooperation with organizations of persons with disabilities from the earliest conceptual and planning stages.

4. States should participate in international cooperation in order to develop common standards for national evaluation in the disability field. States should encourage national coordinating committees to participate also.

5. The evaluation of various programmes in the disability field should be built in at the planning stage, so that the overall efficacy in fulfilling their policy objectives can be evaluated.

Rule 21. Technical and economic cooperation

States, both industrialized and developing, have responsibility to cooperate in and undertake measures for the improvement of the living conditions of persons with disabilities in developing countries.

1. Measures to achieve the equalization of opportunities of persons with disabilities, including refugees with disabilities, should be integrated into general development programmes.

2. Such measures must be integrated in all forms of technical and economic cooperation, bilateral and multilateral, governmental and non-governmental. States should bring up disability issues in discussions on such cooperation with their counterparts.

3. When planning and reviewing programmes of technical and economic cooperation, special attention should be given to the effects of such programmes on the situation of persons with disabilities. It is of utmost importance that persons with disabilities and their organizations are consulted on any development projects designed for persons with disabilities. They should be directly involved in the development, implementation and evaluation of such projects.

4. Priority areas for technical and economic cooperation should include:

(a) The development of human resources through the development of skills, abilities and potentials of persons with disabilities and the initiation of employment-generating activities for and of persons with disabilities;

(b) The development and dissemination of appropriate disability-related technologies and know-how.

5. States are also encouraged to support the formation and strengthening of organizations of persons with disabilities.

6. States should take measures to improve the knowledge of disability issues among staff involved at all levels in the administration of technical and economic cooperation programmes.

Rule 22. International cooperation

States will participate actively in international cooperation concerning policies for the equalization of opportunities for persons with disabilities.

1. Within the United Nations, its specialized agencies and other concerned intergovernmental organizations, States should participate in the development of disability policy.

2. Whenever appropriate, States should introduce disability aspects in general negotiations concerning standards, information exchange, development programmes etc.

3. States should encourage and support the exchange of knowledge and experience between:

(a) Non-governmental organizations concerned with disability issues;

(b) Research institutions and individual researchers involved in disability issues;

(c) Representatives of field programmes and of professional groups in the disability field;

(d) Organizations of persons with disabilities;

(e) National coordinating committees.

4. States should ensure that the United Nations and its specialized agencies, as well as all intergovernmental and interparliamentary bodies, at global and regional levels, include in their work the global and regional organizations of persons with disabilities.

IV. MONITORING MECHANISM

1. The purpose of a monitoring mechanism is to further the effective implementation of the Standard Rules. It will assist each State in assessing its level of implementation of the Standard Rules and in measuring its progress. The monitoring should identify obstacles and suggest suitable measures which would contribute to the successful implementation of the Rules. The monitoring mechanism will recognize the economic, social and cultural features existing in individual States. An important element should also be the provision of advisory services and the exchange of experience and information between States.

2. The Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities shall be monitored within the framework of the sessions of the Commission for Social Development. A Special Rapporteur with relevant and extensive experience of disability issues and international organizations shall be appointed, if necessary, funded by extrabudgetary resources, for three years to monitor the implementation of the Standard Rules.

3. International organizations of persons with disabilities having consultative status with the Economic and Social Council and organizations representing persons with disabilities who have not yet formed their own organizations should be invited to create among themselves a panel of experts, on which organizations of persons with disabilities shall have a majority, taking into account the different kinds of disabilities and necessary equitable geographical distribution, to be consulted by the Special Rapporteur and, when appropriate, by the Secretariat.

4. The panel of experts will be encouraged by the Special Rapporteur to review, advise and provide feedback and suggestions on the promotion, implementation and monitoring of the Standard Rules.

5. The Special Rapporteur shall send a set of questions to States, entities within the United Nations system, and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, including organizations of persons with disabilities. The set of questions should address implementation plans for the Standard Rules in States. The questions should be selective in nature and cover a number of specific rules for in-depth evaluation. In preparing the questions the Special Rapporteur should consult with the panel of experts and the Secretariat.

6. The Special Rapporteur shall seek to establish a direct dialogue not only with States but also with local non-governmental organizations, seeking their views and comments on any information intended to be included in the reports. The Special Rapporteur shall provide advisory services on the implementation and monitoring of the Standard Rules and assistance in the preparation of replies to the sets of questions.

7. The Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the United Nations Office at Vienna, as the United Nations focal point on disability issues, the United Nations Development Programme and other entities and mechanisms within the United Nations system, such as the

regional commissions and specialized agencies and inter-agency meetings, shall cooperate with the Special Rapporteur in the implementation and monitoring of the Standard Rules at the national level.

8. The Special Rapporteur, assisted by the Secretariat, shall prepare reports for submission to the Commission for Social Development, at its thirty-fourth and thirty-fifth sessions. In preparing such reports, the Rapporteur should consult with the panel of experts.

9. States should encourage national coordinating committees or similar bodies to participate in implementation and monitoring. As the focal points on disability matters at the national level, they should be encouraged to establish procedures to coordinate the monitoring of the Standard Rules. Organizations of persons with disabilities should be encouraged to be actively involved in the monitoring of the process at all levels.

10. Should extrabudgetary resources be identified, one or more positions of Interregional Adviser on the Standard Rules should be created to provide direct services to States, including:

(a) The organization of national and regional training seminars on the content of the Standard Rules;

(b) The development of guidelines to assist in strategies for implementation of the Standard Rules;

(c) Dissemination of information about best practices concerning implementation of the Standard Rules.

11. At its thirty-fourth session, the Commission for Social Development should establish an open-ended working group to examine the Special Rapporteur's report and make recommendations on how to improve the application of the Standard Rules. In examining the Special Rapporteur's report, the Commission for Social Development, by its open-ended working group, shall consult international organizations of persons with disabilities and specialized agencies, according to rules 71 and 76 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

12. At its session following the end of the Special Rapporteur's mandate, the Commission should examine the possibility of either renewing that mandate, appointing a new Special Rapporteur or considering another monitoring mechanism, and should make appropriate recommendations to the Economic and Social Council.

13. States should be encouraged to contribute to the United Nations Voluntary Fund on Disability in order to further the implementation of the Standard Rules.

DRAFT RESOLUTION III

Development of a plan of action to implement the Long-Term Strategy to Further the Implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons*

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 45/91 of 14 December 1990, in which the Assembly invited Member States, specialized agencies and other organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to implement the agenda for action until the end of the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons and beyond and the preliminary outline of a long-term strategy to the year 2000 and beyond: a society for all,

Taking note of the deliberations of the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session and of the Commission for Social Development at its thirty-third session on the subject of the long-term strategy,

Emphasizing the need to take rapid action in this connection,

Recalling its resolution 1991/9 of 30 May 1991, in which it recommended that a meeting of experts, to be funded by voluntary contributions, be held in conjunction with the conference entitled "Independence 1992", to be organized in Canada, with the primary objective of drawing up a long-term strategy to implement the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons 1/ to the year 2000 and beyond,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the United Nations Expert Group Meeting on a Long-Term Strategy to Further the Implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons to the Year 2000 and Beyond, 16/ held at Vancouver from 25 to 29 April 1992, and of the important input of non-governmental organizations of persons with disabilities,

Recognizing that the report represents a significant step forward in the development of the plan of action to implement the long-term strategy,

1. Requests the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on the framework outlined in the report of the United Nations Expert Group Meeting on a Long-Term Strategy to Further the Implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons to the Year 2000 and Beyond;

2. Also requests the Secretary-General to develop a draft plan of action based on those views, the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons, the report of the Expert Group Meeting referred to in paragraph 1

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* For the discussion, see chap. III.

16/ E/CN.5/1993/4.

above, the report of the ad hoc open-ended working group to elaborate standard rules on the equalization of opportunities for disabled persons 3/ and other recent developments, as appropriate;

3. Recommends that the draft plan of action should include priorities and a time-frame for implementation and should be submitted for consideration and approval by the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session;

4. Requests that the draft plan of action should be developed in consultation with the international non-governmental organizations of persons with disabilities having consultative status with the Economic and Social Council.

DRAFT RESOLUTION IV

Positive and full inclusion of persons with disabilities in all aspects of society and the leadership role of the United Nations therein*

The Economic and Social Council

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Positive and full inclusion of persons with disabilities in all aspects of society and the leadership role of the United Nations therein

The General Assembly,

Mindful of the pledge made by States, under the Charter of the United Nations, to take action jointly and separately, in cooperation with the United Nations, in order to promote higher standards of living, full employment, and conditions of economic and social progress and development,

Reaffirming the commitment to human rights and fundamental freedoms, social justice and the dignity and worth of the human person proclaimed in the Charter,

Recalling in particular the international standards of human rights laid down in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 6/

Noting that the rights proclaimed in those instruments should be ensured equally to all individuals without discrimination,

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* For the discussion, see chap. III.

Recalling the provisions safeguarding the rights of women with disabilities in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, 9/

Having regard to the Declaration on the Rights of Disabled Persons, 11/ the Declaration on the Rights of Mentally Retarded Persons, 12/ the Declaration on Social Progress and Development, 13/ the Principles for the Protection of Persons with Mental Illness and for the Improvement of Mental Health Care 14/ and other relevant instruments adopted by the General Assembly,

Also having regard to the relevant conventions and recommendations adopted by the International Labour Organisation, with particular reference to participation in employment without discrimination for persons with disabilities,

Mindful of the relevant recommendations and work of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in particular the World Declaration on Education for All, 15/ and of the work of the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund and other concerned organizations,

Recognizing that the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 37/52 of 3 December 1982, and the definition therein of "equalization of opportunities" reflect the determination of the international community to ensure that the various international instruments and recommendations will be put to practical, concrete and effective use in improving the quality of life of persons with disabilities and their families and communities,

Acknowledging that the objective of the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons 1983-1992 as a means to implement the World Programme of Action is still valid and requires urgent and continued action,

Recalling that the World Programme of Action is based on concepts which are equally valid in developed and developing countries,

Convinced that intensified efforts are needed to achieve the full and equal enjoyment of human rights and full participation and inclusion in society of persons with disabilities,

Recognizing that persons with disabilities, their families and representatives and organizations concerned with the needs of persons with disabilities must be active partners with States in the planning and implementation of all measures affecting their civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/26 of 24 May 1990 and reaffirming the detailed enumeration in the World Programme of Action of specific measures required for the attainment of full equality by persons with disabilities, *Reaffirming* the commitment of the Commission for Social Development to the provisions and rules set out in the ongoing process of elaborating standard rules on the equalization of opportunities for persons with disabilities,

Recognizing the essential role of the United Nations and the Commission for Social Development in providing leadership and positive guidance to encourage world-wide change by equalizing opportunities, promoting independence and ensuring the full inclusion and participation in society of all persons with disabilities,

Seeking to ensure effective implementation of action to promote the full inclusion of persons with disabilities in all aspects of society and to affirm the leadership role of the United Nations in that process,

1. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to maintain the integrity and the identity of programmes relating to disabled persons, including the United Nations Voluntary Fund on Disability, in order to promote the equalization of opportunities and full societal inclusion of persons with disabilities;

2. *Urges* the Secretary-General to strengthen, through redeployment of resources, the programme on disabled persons in order to enable it:

(a) To represent the needs of persons with disabilities and their families and communities throughout the United Nations system;

(b) To ensure effective coordination and streamlining of efforts to respond to the needs of persons with disabilities (through policy formulation, advocacy and liaison) among all bodies within the United Nations system, particularly the International Labour Organisation, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Children's Fund;

(c) To promote equal opportunities and full participation of people with disabilities and their families and representatives within the United Nations system itself;

(d) In cooperation with Member States, bodies within the United Nations system, non-governmental organizations and other appropriate agencies, to extend technical assistance and disseminate information in order to enhance the capacity of Member States to develop, implement and evaluate their efforts to equalize opportunities and provide for the full societal inclusion of persons with disabilities;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report biennially to the General Assembly on the progress of efforts to ensure the equalization of opportunities and full inclusion of people with disabilities within the various bodies of the United Nations system;

4. _Requests_ the Secretary-General to consider, in view of the importance of ensuring that the needs of people with disabilities and their families and communities are represented in an equitable manner, strengthening and upgrading the status of the Disabled Persons Unit of the Secretariat through redeployment of resources;

5. _Reaffirms_ that the issues of equalization of opportunities and full societal inclusion for persons with disabilities will be an important part of the preparatory process and final agenda of the World Summit for Social Development to be held in Denmark in 1995;

6. _Reaffirms_ the commitment of the Commission for Social Development to ensuring that the needs of persons with disabilities and their families and communities continue to be addressed in all of its work.

DRAFT RESOLUTION V

_Implementation of the International Plan of Action on Ageing_*

The Economic and Social Council,

Mindful that the ageing of populations presents all countries with the major challenge of identifying and supporting new opportunities for older persons and their potential benefits for society,

Convinced that the United Nations remains the intergovernmental organization best equipped to provide leadership to the international community in dealing with the challenges presented by the ageing of individuals and populations,

Noting with satisfaction the deliberations of the International Conference on Ageing convened on 15 and 16 October 1992 by the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the International Plan of Action on Ageing by the World Assembly on Ageing, [17]

Recalling General Assembly resolution 46/91 of 16 December 1991, by which the Assembly adopted the United Nations Principles for Older Persons, based on the Plan of Action,

Recalling that the States gathered in the World Assembly on Ageing reaffirmed their belief that the fundamental and inalienable rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights [6] should apply fully and undiminishedly to the ageing,

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* For the discussion, see chap. III.

[17] See _Report of the World Assembly on Ageing, Vienna, 26 July-6 August 1982_ (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.I.16), chap. VI, sect. A.

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 47/5 of 16 October 1992, by which the Assembly adopted the Proclamation on Ageing and decided to observe the year 1999 as the International Year of Older Persons,

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 47/86 of 16 December 1992, by which the Assembly adopted the global targets on ageing for the year 2001, [18] as a practical strategy on ageing, and urged Member States to support that strategy and to consult the guide for setting national targets on ageing, [19]

Aware of the expanded activities and initiatives of the United Nations programme on ageing,

Recalling again General Assembly resolution 47/86, in which the Assembly requested the Commission for Social Development to convene an ad hoc informal working group at its thirty-third session for the third review and appraisal of the International Plan of Action on Ageing and for proposing measures in support of setting national targets on ageing in the decade ahead,

Acknowledging with satisfaction the active participation of Member States, specialized agencies and bodies of the United Nations system and interested non-governmental organizations in the third review and appraisal of the implementation of the Plan of Action,

Taking note of the conclusions of the third review and appraisal, which indicate that although some progress has been made in implementing the Plan of Action, much remains to be done to implement its recommendations fully, particularly in developing countries,

1. Notes with appreciation the innovative and forward-looking approach employed in the preparation of the report of the Secretary-General on the third review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Plan of Action on Ageing, [20]

2. Endorses the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the third review and appraisal, in the form of global and national targets on ageing for the year 2001, providing a pragmatic focus for the broad and ideal goals of the Plan of Action and accelerating its implementation into the next millennium;

3. Welcomes the new conceptual framework and operational nature of the United Nations programme on ageing, provided by the United Nations Principles for Older Persons, the Proclamation on Ageing and the global targets for the year 2001, to further the implementation of the Plan of Action in the current decade;

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[18] A/47/369, sect. III.

[19] Ibid., sect. IV.

[20] E/CN.5/1993/7.

4. *Reaffirms* the recommendation made in the Plan of Action and reiterated in numerous General Assembly resolutions, in which the Secretary-General was requested, within the existing regular budget and extrabudgetary resources of the United Nations, to give due consideration to the provision of appropriate increased resources for the implementation of the Plan of Action, particularly in the light of recent and projected developments within the field of ageing;

5. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to maintain the integrity and the identity of the United Nations programme on ageing, as well as the United Nations Trust Fund for Ageing, in order to assist Member States in fully implementing the recommendations of the Plan of Action;

6. *Urges* Governments, specialized agencies and bodies of the United Nations system and interested non-governmental organizations to explore new approaches to supporting, through partnerships, the activities of the United Nations programme on ageing in the current decade aimed at assisting Member States in selecting and reaching national targets and implementing the United Nations Principles for Older Persons;

7. *Notes with interest* the preliminary findings of the United Nations research project on developmental implications of population ageing, presented at the Expert Group Meeting on Population Growth and Demographic Structure, held in Paris from 16 to 20 November 1992, expresses its appreciation to the Government of Sweden for supporting this project, and invites the United Nations Population Fund to continue its support for it;

8. *Invites* interested Member States, non-governmental organizations and research centres to support the activities of the United Nations programme on ageing, particularly research activities aimed at suggesting policy options to enhance contributions of the elderly to development;

9. *Urges* the Secretary-General to strengthen, within existing resources, the research component of the United Nations programme on ageing in order to enable it, on the basis of approaches of the third review and appraisal and the project on developmental implications of population ageing, to develop policy and programme options for assisting Member States in achieving their national targets on ageing for the year 2001 and in implementing the United Nations Principles for Older Persons;

10. *Commends* the United Nations Postal Administration for issuing, on 5 February 1993, a set of six commemorative stamps on the theme "Ageing: Dignity and Participation";

11. *Reiterates* the appeal made by the General Assembly in its resolution 47/5, in which it urged the international community to highlight ageing at major forthcoming events, including, in the near future, the World Conference on Human Rights, to be held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, the International Year of the Family, 1994, the International Conference on Population and Development, to be held at Cairo from 5 to 13 September 1994, the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace, to be held at Beijing from 4 to 15 September 1995, the tenth anniversary of International Youth Year, 1995, and the World Summit for Social Development, to be held in Denmark in 1995;

12. *Welcomes* the decision of the General Assembly, in its resolution 47/5, to observe 1999 as the International Year of Older Persons;

13. *Invites* Member States to strengthen their national mechanisms on ageing, *inter alia*, to enable them to serve as national focal points for the preparations for and observance of the Year;

14. *Appeals* to Governments and non-governmental organizations to make known to the Secretary-General their views on the preparations for and observance of the Year in order to ensure an adequate basis for formulating the programme for the Year;

15. *Invites* the regional commissions to take an active part in the preparations for and observance of the Year, focusing on the specific needs and requirements of each region;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to draft a conceptual framework of a programme, at the national, regional and international levels, for the preparations for and observance of the Year, and to submit it for consideration by the Commission for Social Development at its thirty-fourth session in 1995, and by the General Assembly at its fiftieth session, in 1995.

DRAFT RESOLUTION VI

*International Year of the Family**

The Economic and Social Council

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

International Year of the Family

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 44/82 of 8 December 1989, 45/133 of 14 December 1990 and 46/92 of 16 December 1991 concerning the International Year of the Family, as expressions of the determination of the peoples of the United Nations to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom,

Recalling that major United Nations instruments on human rights and social policy, as well as relevant global plans and programmes of action, call for the widest possible protection and assistance to be accorded to the family,

Convinced that equality between the sexes, women's equal participation in employment and shared parental responsibility are essential elements of modern family policy,

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* For the discussion, see chap. III.

Conscious of the existence of various concepts of the family in different social, cultural and political systems,

Aware, at the same time, that families are the fullest reflection, at the grass-roots level, of the strengths and weaknesses of the social and developmental welfare environment, and as such offer a uniquely comprehensive and synthesizing approach to social issues,

Realizing that families, as basic units of social life, are major agents of sustainable development at all levels of society, and that their contribution to that process is crucial for its success,

Stressing that the observance of the International Year of the Family in 1994 will immediately precede the celebration by the family of nations of the historic fiftieth anniversary of the Charter of the United Nations,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the state of preparations for the International Year of the Family, 21/

1. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on the state of preparations for the International Year of the Family;

2. Expresses its appreciation to the Secretary-General for a well-coordinated and impressive effort in the preliminary and preparatory phases to the Year, despite resource constraints, and for the considerable progress made towards its observance;

3. Notes with satisfaction that the Year has gained increasing support at all levels, and that the preparatory process has enhanced and strengthened the substantive orientation of the Year;

4. Commends all Governments, specialized agencies, regional commissions and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations which have undertaken special efforts to prepare for the observance of the Year;

5. Urges Governments, specialized agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, especially those which have not yet done so, to intensify the efforts undertaken, including the identification of national coordinating mechanisms and elaboration of national programmes of action, in the preparations for and observance of the International Year of the Family;

6. Welcomes the holding in 1993 of four regional and interregional preparatory meetings for the Year, organized by the Secretariat for the International Year of the Family in the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, in close cooperation with the

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21/ E/CN.5/1993/3.

regional commissions, and hosted by the Governments of China, Colombia, Malta and Tunisia;

7. Notes with interest the proposal by the Government of Slovakia that the Bratislava International Centre for Family Studies be affiliated with the United Nations;

8. Also notes with interest the results of the Expert Group Meeting on the Social Consequences of Population Growth and Changing Social Conditions, with Particular Emphasis on the Family, 22/ co-sponsored by the Government of Germany and held at Vienna from 21 to 25 September 1992;

9. Welcomes also the active involvement of non-governmental organizations in the preparatory process for the Year, including the major global initiative to convene a world non-governmental organization forum entitled "Launching the International Year of the Family, 1994: Strengthening Families for the Well-being of Individuals and Societies", to be held at Valetta, Malta, from 28 November to 2 December 1993, and calls upon all those concerned to support the event in every possible manner;

10. Expresses its special gratitude to Governments and other donors, especially those in the private sector, which have generously responded to earlier appeals to contribute resources to the Voluntary Fund for the International Year of the Family;

11. Appeals to all Governments concerned and all other prospective donors to pledge their contributions to the Voluntary Fund, notably during the pledging segments of the regional and interregional preparatory meetings in 1993, with a view to releasing new funds for specific family-oriented projects, particularly in developing countries, during both the Year and its follow-up;

12. Invites policy-making organs of specialized agencies and other bodies in the United Nations system to consider, in the context of their substantive mandates, the principles and objectives of the Year and follow-up action to the Year for the benefit of the families of the world;

13. Also invites organizations and specialized agencies of the United Nations system to include in their programme budgets for 1994 and 1995, as appropriate, programme elements for the observance of and follow-up to the Year;

14. Decides to devote one of its plenary meetings at its forty-eighth session, in early December 1993, to launching the International Year of the Family;

22/ See E/CN.5/1993/6.

15. *Also decides* that, beginning in 1994, 15 May of every year shall be observed as the International Day of Families;

16. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights, the Population Commission and the Commission on the Status of Women to include in the agendas for their sessions in 1993 or 1994 consideration of the principles and objectives of the Year in the context of their major areas of concern, and to propose specific follow-up measures regarding human rights, population issues and the advancement of women as each affects or is affected by families, including family-oriented components of the World Conference on Human Rights, to be held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, the International Conference on Population and Development, to be held at Cairo from 5 to 13 September 1994, the World Summit for Social Development, to be held in Denmark in 1995, and the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace, to be held at Beijing from 4 to 15 September 1995;

17. *Decides* to devote two plenary meetings at its forty-ninth session, in 1994, to the implementation of the follow-up to the Year, and to designate those meetings as an international conference on families, which should take place at an appropriate global policy-making level and in keeping with the procedures and practices of the General Assembly;

18. *Appeals* to Member States as well as to all other participants in the observance of the Year to highlight 1994 as a special event benefiting families of the world in their quest for a better life for all, based on the principle of subsidiarity, which seeks solutions to problems at the lowest level of the societal structure;

19. *Calls for* a concerted promotional and information campaign on behalf of the Year at the national, regional and international levels, with strong participation of the mass media;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To seek the views of member States of the Commission for Social Development on the desirability to work out a declaration on the role, responsibilities and rights of families on the occasion of the International Year of the Family;

(b) To plan adequate resources, including staff, through redeployment in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995, with a view to ensuring effective observance of and follow-up to the Year, commensurate with its important principles and objectives;

(c) To continue taking specific measures, through all the communication media at his disposal, particularly within the mandates of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, to give widespread publicity to the preparations for and observance of the Year, and to increase the dissemination of information on the subject;

(d) To report on the observance of the Year at the national, regional and international levels, and to submit specific proposals on the follow-up to the Year, including a draft plan of action, if deemed appropriate, to the Assembly at its fiftieth session;

21. Decides to consider the question of the International Year of the Family at its fiftieth session, on the basis of a report of the Secretary-General under the agenda item entitled "Social development".

DRAFT RESOLUTION VII

Tenth anniversary of International Youth Year and draft world programme of action for youth towards the year 2000 and beyond*

The Economic and Social Council,

Considering all relevant General Assembly resolutions, particularly its resolutions 40/14 of 18 November 1985, 45/103 of 14 December 1990 and 47/85 of 16 December 1992,

Recognizing the need to improve the situation of youth through concerted action aimed at more effective programming of youth activities and the implementation and evaluation of those programmes at all levels within the framework of the tenth anniversary of the International Youth Year,

Noting the interlinkages between the fiftieth annniversary of the Charter of the United Nations, the World Summit for Social Development, to be held in Denmark in 1995, and the tenth anniversary of the International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General containing the draft calendar of activities to mark the tenth anniversary of the International Youth Year and the draft world programme of action for youth towards the year 2000 and beyond, [23]

1. Endorses the calendar of activities to mark the tenth anniversary of International Youth Year, as set out in the annex to the present resolution;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to continue refining the draft world programme of action for youth towards the year 2000 and beyond in accordance with proposals to be submitted by Member States, specialized agencies and other bodies within the United Nations system, and concerned intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, including non-governmental youth organizations, particularly in the light of the deliberations and suggestions of the Commission for Social Development;

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* For the discussion, see chap. III.

[23] E/CN.5/1993/10.

3. Also requests the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on the United Nations statement of intent on youth, 24/ which could become an integral part of the world youth programme of action;

4. Urges Member States, national coordinating committees and non-governmental organizations to prepare national programmes of action for the period 1993-1995 in the context of the preparations for the tenth anniversary of International Youth Year, encompassing provisions for substantive, promotional and informational activities directed towards youth, the authorities and the community at all levels, and to inform the Secretary-General of the progress achieved;

5. Urges all specialized agencies and United Nations bodies concerned, including the regional commissions, to incorporate appropriate activities within their work programmes for the period 1993-1995 in commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the Year;

6. Invites the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat to develop and implement a specific international programme of informational activities to be carried out mainly at the national level to ensure that the potential value of the observance of the tenth anniversary of the Year is fully understood;

7. Urges the Secretary-General to undertake the necessary measures to ensure that the United Nations Youth Fund remains an important operational mechanism of the subprogramme of the United Nations on integration of youth in development;

8. Stresses the importance of considering the issues of integration and participation of youth in society as part of the preparatory process and final agenda for the World Summit for Social Development, to be held in Denmark in 1995;

9. Calls upon the Secretary-General to give all possible support, through the redeployment of existing resources, as well as through extrabudgetary resources, to the subprogramme of the United Nations on integration of youth in development;

10. Calls upon the Commission for Social Development to give priority attention at its thirty-fourth session to the refinement of the draft world programme of action for youth towards the year 2000 and beyond, and to establish an ad hoc informal open-ended working group on youth for this purpose, with a view to formulating a final draft to be submitted to the Economic and Social Council in 1995 and to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session.

24/ For the text approved by the Commission at its thirty-third session, see E/CN.5/1993/L.11, annex.

Annex

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES TO MARK THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR

A. Preparatory phase (1993-1994)

1. Activities at the national level

1. Preparations could be facilitated by the establishment of a coordinating or preparatory committee at the highest level of government, including in its membership youth representatives. Such a body would undertake some or all of the following tasks:

(a) To develop a detailed programme based on an appropriate analysis of the situation of youth;

(b) To review existing youth-related national legislation, policies, plans and programmes, including administrative structures and services for youth;

(c) To collate and disseminate existing data and research on youth-related issues;

(d) To promote action-oriented research and studies by academic institutions, research institutes and youth organizations;

(e) To launch public information campaigns, using the mass media and other information networks, to promote awareness of youth issues and reinforce a positive attitude towards young people;

(f) To raise awareness of particular youth issues by promoting "creative" events, such as drawing, photographic, art and essay competitions, the results of which could be published in 1995;

(g) To promote communication between government and youth groups, and between generations in different formal and informal settings, thereby encouraging the active involvement of young people in the preparation and commemoration of the tenth anniversary and in the shaping of youth policies.

2. Activities at the international and regional levels

(a) Non-governmental organizations

2. International and regional non-governmental organizations will clearly have an important role and might thus wish to consider how best they could reorient some of their activities to mark the tenth anniversary. Some of the possibilities for action are:

(a) To carry out or support independent surveys on the situation of young people, support research and facilitate publication or dissemination of research findings, especially where other channels of distribution are difficult to access;

(b) To conduct independent surveys and assessments of existing youth policies, plans and programmes, identifying current and emerging youth issues;

(c) To facilitate the publishing and exchange of information on youth activities, using their publications and information networks;

(d) To promote cultural and educational exhibits and radio and television programmes, highlighting international cooperation on youth issues and concerns;

(e) To encourage their regional and national offices to assist Governments in activities related to the anniversary of the International Youth Year.

(b) United Nations agencies and bodies

3. United Nations agencies and bodies may be expected to provide appropriate support to the activities marking the tenth anniversary of International Youth Year, at the level and in a manner corresponding to their respective mandates. In planning their programmes for the period 1993-1994, they might wish to give special consideration to how these could be made to support the activities marking the anniversary. Various possibilities might be considered, as listed below:

(a) To link to the preparations for the tenth anniversary activities pertaining to other major international events, such as the International Year of the Family (1994), the International Conference on Population and Development (1994), the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace (1995), the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Charter of the United Nations (1995), the World Summit for Social Development (1995) and the World Conference on Human Rights (1993);

(b) To support Governments in strengthening their national youth policies, programmes and strategies;

(c) To organize meetings, seminars, conferences and workshops on specific topics of particular relevance to youth;

(d) To give special attention to youth issues in 1995 in their regular bulletins, journals and newsletters;

(e) To mobilize the substantive resources of their regional and national offices with a view to assisting youth non-governmental organizations in their preparatory activities.

B. Observance phase (1995)

1. Activities at the national level

4. It is not yet possible to decide the most appropriate manner in which the tenth anniversary of International Youth Year might be marked in different countries, at different levels of Government and by the different non-governmental entities concerned. The type of activities that should be

suggested for implementation in 1995 will depend on the extent to which plans drawn up for the preparatory phase in 1993 and 1994 are finalized and implemented. At this stage, Governments, in cooperation with national youth organizations, might be requested to plan ahead, so that the tenth anniversary may provide an opportunity to initiate substantive measures in favour of youth, taking advantage of the publicity generated by the anniversary and by events such as the following:

(a) Conferences, workshops and debates on youth-related issues, in which prominent persons in the community would take part, for instance, political leaders and scholars, and especially youth leaders;

(b) Statements and appearances by prominent political personalities including, where possible, heads of Government, highlighting the positive contributions young people make to society;

(c) Issuance of commemorative stamps, posters and other souvenir materials;

(d) Designating a national youth day, week or month during which youth issues could be highlighted in a variety of national events, by means of a special focus on youth, for example, in book fairs and other cultural events or sports competitions;

(e) Special events organized by young people to draw attention to days designated for commemoration by the United Nations and other events widely observed, for example, International Women's Day (8 March), World Health Day (7 April), World Environment Day (5 June), International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking (26 June), World Population Day (11 July), International Day of Peace (third Tuesday in September), United Nations Day (24 October), World AIDS Day (1 December), International Day of Disabled Persons (3 December) and Human Rights Day (10 December).

2. Activities at the international level

5. The General Assembly decided, in its resolution 45/103, to devote a plenary meeting at its fiftieth session to the tenth anniversary of International Youth Year, which will also be the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations. The Assembly may wish to mark these events in some special manner, for example:

(a) By agreeing to a United Nations statement of intent on youth in conjunction with the adoption in 1995 of a world youth programme of action;

(b) By designating, in 1995, an International Youth Day.

DRAFT RESOLUTION VIII

United Nations Research Institute for Social Development*

The Economic and Social Council,

Recognizing the importance of research on social issues for the formulation and implementation of development policies and, in this context, the functions and important contribution of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development,

Emphasizing the important role the Institute can play in the preparations for the World Summit for Social Development to be held at Copenhagen in 1995,

Stressing the need to provide the necessary financial and administrative resources to enable the Institute to play its role and to further enhance its capacity to undertake research on critical problems of social development,

Having considered the report of the Board of the Institute on its activities during the period 1 November 1991 to 31 October 1992, 25/

1. Expresses its appreciation to Governments providing financial support to the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development;

2. Invites those Governments that have not yet done so to make financial contributions to the Institute according to their capabilities, and those Governments that already support the Institute to consider the possibility of increasing their contributions, in both cases preferably on a regular basis;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide, within existing resources, financial and administrative services to the Institute in order to give it the capacity to carry out its research on critical social development problems.

B. Draft decisions

2. The Commission for Social Development recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decisions:

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* For the discussion, see chap. V.

25/ E/CN.5/1993/8 and Corr.1.

DRAFT DECISION I

Report of the Commission for Social Development on its thirty-third session and provisional agenda and documentation for the thirty-fourth session of the Commission

The Economic and Social Council:

(a) Takes note of the report of the Commission for Social Development on its thirty-third session, and endorses the resolutions and decisions adopted by the Commission;

(b) Approves the provisional agenda and documentation for the thirty-fourth session of the Commission set out below.

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND DOCUMENTATION FOR THE THIRTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

3. Review of the world social situation.

   Under this item the Commission will review social conditions and issues of global concern, giving particular emphasis to the context of the changing world economy and the implications of these changes for social policies and programmes. Emphasis will be placed on the review of new approaches and methods for the solution of problems based, *inter alia*, on recent national experience.

   Documentation

   Report of the Secretary-General on global trends and newly emerging social issues

4. Monitoring of international plans and programmes of action.

   Under this item, the Commission will monitor the implementation of international plans and programmes of action, specifically, the Guiding Principles for Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes in the Near Future, the guidelines for further planning and suitable follow-up in the field of youth, the International Plan of Action on Ageing and the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons, and their follow-up arrangements, as well as the social components of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade. The Commission will review the possible follow-up to the International Year of the Family.

   The Commission will review concurrently the relevant activities of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs in the field of social development. The Commission will receive reports from the regional commissions on their social development and social welfare activities, as well as reports on relevant expert group meetings.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the major issues and programme activities of the Secretariat and the regional commissions relating to social development and welfare and specific social groups

Report of the Secretary-General on measures taken by Member States to observe the International Day of Disabled Persons

Report of the Secretary-General on a conceptual framework for the preparation and observance of the International Year of Older Persons

5. Priority subject: World Summit for Social Development.

The Commission will consider, if requested, preparations for the Summit and the follow-up, including options for revitalizing its work in the light of the Summit.

6. Other matters.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General on the draft proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997 and revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997

Note by the Secretary-General on the nomination of members of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

Report of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

7. Provisional agenda for the thirty-fifth session of the Commission.

8. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its thirty-fourth session.

DRAFT DECISION II

International Year of Older Persons

The Economic and Social Council, recalling General Assembly resolution 47/5 of 16 October 1992, in which it decided to observe 1999 as the International Year of Older Persons, requests the Assembly to redesignate the Year as the International Year of the Elderly.

DRAFT DECISION III

Contribution of comprehensive national social policies to societal management and to the solving of economic, environmental, demographic, cultural and political problems

The Economic and Social Council decides to transmit the following draft resolution to the General Assembly:

Contribution of comprehensive national social policies to societal management and to the solving of economic, environmental, demographic, cultural and political problems

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 42/125 of 7 December 1987, 44/65 of 8 December 1989 and 46/90 of 16 December 1991 concerning the Guiding Principles for Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes in the Near Future, [26] adopted by the Interregional Consultation on Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes, held at Vienna from 7 to 15 September 1987,

Recalling also its resolution 47/92 of 16 December 1992 on the convening of a World Summit for Social Development, to be held in Denmark in 1995, in which it decided, *inter alia*, that the core issues affecting all societies to be addressed by the Summit were:

(a) The enhancement of social integration, particularly of the more disadvantaged and marginalized groups;

(b) Alleviation and reduction of poverty;

(c) Expansion of productive employment,

Recalling further resolution 33/1 of 17 February 1993 of the Commission for Social Development on the World Summit for Social Development,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Guiding Principles for Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes in the Near Future; [27]

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[26] E/CONF.80/10, chap. III.

[27] A/48/56, chap. II.

2. Takes note also of the results of the Expert Group Meeting on the Social Consequences of Population Growth and Changing Social Conditions, with Particular Emphasis on the Family, held at Vienna from 21 to 25 September 1992; 22/

3. Urges Governments to accord to social policies a high priority on the national agenda;

4. Encourages Governments to enhance all forms of participation at the local and national levels, in order to establish the essential preconditions for creating a context within which individuals, families and communities will be willing and able to respond to the incentives included within public programmes to enhance local capacities for providing social services;

5. Requests the Secretary-General within existing resources:

(a) To strengthen the capacity of the United Nations to provide the most effective support to Governments in their task of preparing comprehensive national social policies as central elements of their strategies for societal management;

(b) To devote appropriate attention to the need for coordinating international action with the process of formulating and carrying out comprehensive national social policies;

(c) To support, upon the specific request of Member States, national efforts to strengthen effective participation of all citizens in national social policies and programmes;

(d) To include within programme activities in 1994 and 1995 national case-studies of experience in the formulation and implementation of comprehensive social policies, especially in countries suffering from severe economic, political, cultural and environmental pressures, and to ensure the wide dissemination of the results of such studies;

(e) To undertake on a system-wide basis the analysis of national experience and the widespread dissemination of guidelines and of technical support designed to promote and strengthen national capacities for development of comprehensive social policies as intrinsic parts of social development;

(f) To report to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session, through the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1994, on the further implementation of the Guiding Principles for Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes in the Near Future, giving special attention to recent national experience, including guidelines for achieving greater effectiveness.

C. Decision calling for action by the Council

3. The following decision adopted by the Commission calls for action by the Economic and Social Council:

Decision 33/101. Nomination of members of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

At its 14th meeting, on 17 February 1993, the Commission decided to nominate, for confirmation by the Economic and Social Council, the following candidates for membership in the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development:

For an additional term of two years, beginning on 1 July 1993:

Lars ANELL (Sweden);

Ingrid EIDE (Norway);

Tatyana KORYAGINA (Russian Federation);

Maureen O'NEIL (Canada);

Akilagpa SAWYERR (Ghana).

D. Resolution and decision brought to the attention of the Council

4. The following resolution adopted by the Commission is brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council:

Resolution 33/1. World Summit for Social Development

The Commission for Social Development,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 47/92 of 16 December 1992 on the convening of a World Summit for Social Development,

Having given consideration to the agenda for the Summit and to the question of holding an extraordinary session of the Commission dedicated solely to the question of the Summit before the first substantive session of the Preparatory Committee for the Summit in 1994, as called for by the General Assembly in paragraph 12 of resolution 47/92,

Decides to transmit the annex to the present resolution to the Economic and Social Council at the high-level segment of its substantive session of 1993 and to the Preparatory Committee for the Summit.

Annex

A. Consideration of the agenda for the World Summit for Social Development

1. The Commission for Social Development has given due consideration to the agenda for the World Summit for Social Development at its thirty-third session, as called for in paragraph 12 of General Assembly resolution 47/92, and has arrived at the conclusion set out below.

2. A detailed definition of the agenda for the Summit, based on the core issues specified in paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 47/92, will be the task of the Preparatory Committee for the Summit. As requested, the Commission has given substantive consideration to the core issues.

3. The Commission is of the view that the agenda for the Summit should adhere strictly to the agreed core issues, as related to the objectives specified in paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 47/92.

4. The Commission is of the view that the agenda for, and the outcome of, the Summit should lead to concrete, action-oriented plans and programmes that can be monitored on a continuing basis. In this connection, the Commission recalls the existing instruments agreed upon by intergovernmental bodies, in particular those promoting the well-being of specific social groups. The results of the Summit should enhance the effectiveness of the United Nations system in the sphere of social development and the effective implementation of existing instruments, as appropriate to national circumstances, through, *inter alia*, standard-setting and heightened efforts to give coherence to disparate social strategies and to develop from them concrete projects and programmes. New approaches should be considered to ensure an appropriate impact and lasting solutions.

5. The Commission is of the view that the Summit should foster a greater understanding of the following:

(a) Social and economic development cannot take place independently of each other and must be integrated;

(b) Social factors must be adequately understood and considered in order to formulate effective economic policies;

(c) Social policies must be formulated in such a way as to ensure that they are economically sustainable;

(d) Social development represents an approach that aims to enhance people's capacity to lead secure lives and to provide them with the conditions necessary for their full participation in society;

(e) Safety net or welfare provisions form one aspect of social development policy. Such provisions, however, should not simply aim at protecting people but should also provide them with opportunities to reduce their vulnerability;

(f) A peaceful, stable and non-discriminatory international environment is essential for social development within nations;

(g) Social development will strengthen international peace and security;

(h) The social, economic and demographic aspects of development are interrelated.

6. In considering the three core issues - the enhancement of social integration, particularly of the more disadvantaged and marginalized groups; alleviation and reduction of poverty; and expansion of productive employment - it should be noted that all are interrelated.

7. In order to promote more effective and nationally appropriate strategies and to enhance the effectiveness of international cooperation in all directions - South-South, North-South and North-North cooperation - the Commission recommends that the Preparatory Committee for the Summit take into particular consideration the elaboration of the three core issues set out below.

1. Social development strategies for the enhancement of social integration

(a) Creating equal access to opportunities and information through the elimination of all forms of discrimination;

(b) Promoting education for all, eradicating illiteracy, particularly among women, and continuing the training of the labour force;

(c) Promoting the role of grass-roots and non-governmental organizations, within the national context, in defining and executing social programmes;

(d) Decentralizing decision-making to encourage more effective and efficient social policy-making and programming and enabling people to participate in the decisions that directly or indirectly affect their lives;

(e) Identifying successful, cost-effective programmes in countries at various levels of development to ensure the full participation of all people in society, especially those who are in situations of particular vulnerability;

(f) Improving social returns by directing spending priorities towards investment that has social multiplier effects - for example, investment in basic education, primary health care and general social services;

(g) Ensuring that public administration is transparent and accountable, and that institutions that deliver services operate efficiently, effectively and responsively to needs;

2. Social development strategies for the alleviation and reduction of poverty

(h) Formulating nationally appropriate, effective and efficient social policies and programmes for the alleviation and reduction of poverty, including extreme poverty, the reduction of vulnerability and thus the enhancement of individual choice and security. These policies and programmes should address the root causes of poverty;

(i) Developing methods for monitoring and evaluating the impact of social policies and programmes that are poverty-focused and methods for assessing the efficacy of the projects included and developing systems for the exchange of views and mutual learning; in particular, such methods and systems should aim at eliminating the impoverishment of women and alleviating its effects;

(j) Encouraging complementary action between public and private providers of social services, in order to encourage a wider choice and more efficient use of resources;

3. Social development strategies for the generation of productive employment

(k) Formulating nationally appropriate, effective and efficient economic and labour market policies to maximize the expansion of productive employment, particularly through the growth of small and medium-sized enterprises;

(l) Enhancing human development through the provision of improved and appropriate education systems, including basic literacy, skills training and health care;

(m) Improving opportunities for workers in all spheres, especially in rural and informal sectors, to increase their productivity through improved access to markets, credit, technology, training and social services;

(n) Defining nationally appropriate policies to ensure workers' rights of organization and free collective bargaining, as well as protecting wages and working hours, rights to social security, non-discriminatory employment practices and labour legislation;

(o) Elaborating ways and means of enhancing the access of women, young and elderly people, persons with disabilities and other disadvantaged groups to productive employment and to ensure that their contributions are recognized.

8. With reference to paragraphs 15, 16 and 17 of General Assembly resolution 47/92, the Commission welcomed a wide variety of input into the preparations for the Summit. Some representatives stressed the desirability of seeking input from experts and practitioners in the field of social development and indicated the willingness of their Governments to host expert group meetings on the three core issues as elaborated in paragraphs 5, 6 and 7 above. The Preparatory Committee for the Summit would decide to what extent expert group meetings, and the reports they might produce, would be useful to the preparatory process for the Summit. The Commission suggests that the

Preparatory Committee give full consideration to this question, including reporting procedures, at its organizational session in April 1993.

B. Consideration of the question of holding an extraordinary session of the Commission for Social Development in 1994

9. The Commission has given due consideration to the question of holding an extraordinary session dedicated solely to the question of the Summit before the first substantive session of the Preparatory Committee for the Summit in 1994, as called for in paragraph 12 of General Assembly resolution 47/92.

10. The Commission is conscious of the fact that, in accordance with paragraphs 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 of General Assembly resolution 47/92, the preparations for the Summit have been entrusted to the Preparatory Committee, to be assisted by an ad hoc secretariat, inter alia, to enable all countries to participate in the preparatory process. To ensure the efficacy and efficiency of the preparatory process and to avoid duplication, the Commission is of the view that it would not be appropriate to convene an extraordinary session.

11. In consideration of General Assembly resolution 47/92 and in view of the specific competence of the Commission for Social Development, the Economic and Social Council and the Preparatory Committee for the Summit should consider what further role the Commission could play in the preparations for and follow-up to the Summit.

12. In view of the normal schedule for sessions of the Commission for Social Development, the Economic and Social Council may wish to consider modifying the date of the next regular session of the Commission.

5. The following decision adopted by the Commission is brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council:

Decision 33/102. Programme questions

At its 15th meeting, on 17 February 1993, the Commission took note of the proposed programme of work for the biennium 1992-1993 and the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 (E/CN.5/1993/CRP.1) and the note by the Secretary-General on the nomination of members of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (E/CN.5/1993/9).

Chapter II

WORLD SUMMIT FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

6. The Commission considered item 3 of its agenda at its 1st to 4th and 8th to 10th meetings, on 8, 9, 12 and 15 February 1993.

7. Many representatives made statements regarding the decision of the General Assembly, contained in its resolution 47/92 of 16 December 1992, to convene a World Summit for Social Development, to be hosted by the Government of Denmark in 1995. While recognizing that primary responsibility for finalizing the agenda for the Summit rested with the Preparatory Committee for the Summit, it was stressed that the Commission for Social Development had an important contribution to make.

8. Many representatives suggested that the Commission consider a variety of ideas and possibilities for the agenda of the Summit, in order to provide the Preparatory Committee with a broad basis upon which to begin its work. At the same time, it was emphasized that it would be premature for the Commission to define the methods of work or specific agenda items, because that could limit the work of the Preparatory Committee.

9. A wide variety of ideas were presented regarding the preparatory process for the Summit. Several representatives stressed that it was important to ensure a well-prepared and well-managed process that reflected the needs and concerns of all countries taking part. One representative stated that during the preparatory process it would be necessary to hear all views, including those of developing countries.

10. Another representative suggested that close analysis of the themes chosen for the agenda of the Summit could best be achieved through in-depth discussions at specially convened expert group meetings as part of the preparatory process. He stated that his Government would consider hosting such a meeting of experts. Two other representatives also indicated a willingness on the part of their Governments to host meetings of experts.

11. Several participants noted the number of other international conferences that would be occurring during the next two years. They stated that it was important for the preparations of the Summit to take full account of the contributions of those meetings, and underlined the necessity of coordinating activities so that the achievements of each meeting were fully reflected in all the others. Another participant considered that coordination of preparatory activities domestically was also important, and suggested that Governments consider how best to ensure proper coordination among relevant ministries.

12. Many representatives expressed the need to focus on limited priority areas and to make concrete proposals. One suggested that it was important to avoid making a shopping list of desired items, and stated that the Commission should demonstrate restraint by concentrating on a few issues of world-wide interest. There was a need for the Summit to reach positive and concrete results, producing an action-oriented outcome that could be evaluated. One representative stated that the Summit should not be seen as a discussion of

vague philosophy, but of realistic, practical programmes. Another emphasized that lasting value would be found in the follow-up to the Summit. Several representatives recognized that the Summit would be faced with the difficulty of reconciling the different expectations of the many participants, and therefore suggested that there was a need for realistic objectives and a respect for different cultural traditions. Many representatives agreed that the Summit provided a moral force for bringing about improved conditions for social development.

13. Several representatives viewed the Summit as providing an opportunity to promote an exchange of experience on social policies and programmes. There was an interest in moving beyond raising awareness of social issues to a process of sharing experiences in order to assist in devising relevant and appropriate strategies.

14. One representative expressed the desire to avoid conflict at the Summit, stating that it should not become one more meeting where countries engage in mutual recrimination. Another stressed the need for Governments to accept the equality, pragmatism and mutual benefits provided by different systems. Several representatives stated that the Summit could not be expected to seek uniform solutions to the individual problems of countries, but could represent a joint effort of the community of nations. Each country must make its own decisions, and the international community could provide "help towards self-help".

15. One participant stated that a prerequisite for effective policy-making was the achievement of a stable, equitable and fair international environment that provided conditions favourable to social development.

16. Several participants spoke of the importance of respecting the dignity and value of individual human beings. Effective social development required the assurance of social justice and fundamental human rights at all levels. In addition, there was a need for efficient and effective policy-making, democratic decision-making, transparency and accountability of Government, respect for the rule of law, freedom of expression, and respect for the ecological imperative.

17. Several representatives stressed the desire to improve international cooperation for social development as a means of complementing national efforts. One mentioned the opportunity that currently existed to free international cooperation from the burden of ideological confrontation. Another stated that greater international cooperation for development could lead to greater world peace and stability, while yet another recognized the need to strengthen international cooperation, but warned that it should not be used to interfere in the internal affairs of countries.

18. In the view of many representatives, a primary purpose of the Summit would be to create effective, efficient and appropriate social policies in all countries. Attention was to be given to policies that stressed complementarities between public and private sectors, and to policies that produced the least social division and the best distribution of goods. A key determinant of appropriate policies should be the achievement of greater efficiency in providing services, while encouraging pluralism in public administration and among non-governmental organizations. One speaker

mentioned the goal of establishing a pluralist welfare State composed of the Government, voluntary organizations and the market-place providing social services, stressing that it was important to maintain balance between economic efficiency and social development, between political space and the civilian society, and between preventive and curative measures for social policies and the treatment of individuals.

19. Many participants spoke of the need to enhance human development by investing in the potential of individuals and by encouraging the participation of every member of society, with special emphasis given to ways to enhance the participation of women and to provide opportunities to vulnerable or marginalized groups.

20. One delegation emphasized the role of women in the socio-economic development of poor countries and stressed that the equitable integration of women into society and the production system must be one of the themes that received the greatest attention at the World Summit in Copenhagen.

21. One representative spoke of the link between poverty and a lack of choice. Emphasis should be given to economic reform that favoured the capacities of the poor and encouraged entrepreneurial development. In other words, the key was to create conditions for people to help themselves and to provide all people with opportunities to utilize their human potential. The goal of effective social policy was to empower individuals and liberate their potential.

22. According to a few representatives, there was a need for further integration of social factors into economic planning. The opportunity provided by the Summit was not merely to discuss problems of individual social sectors, and the outcome should not involve simply appending social issues to economic plans. Instead, the focus of efforts should be on the creation of total development plans that integrated social and economic aspects.

23. Several representatives stressed the importance of non-governmental organizations being involved in all phases of the preparatory process. Those organizations provided an effective means of increasing popular participation in decision-making, both for the Summit itself and for long-term development. One representative mentioned the convening of a preparatory conference of non-governmental organizations for the Summit.

24. A few participants mentioned that the Summit provided an opportunity to review United Nations activities in social areas and that the preparations for the Summit sought to enhance the contribution of the United Nations system to social development in general. For the Summit to be successful, there was a need for a well-coordinated global programme of action involving Governments, the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations.

25. One speaker suggested that a possible result of the Summit would be the creation of indicator systems in the area of social development, to help facilitate mechanisms for the sharing of information to foster social development. Another speaker stressed the value of internationally comparable social data for sharing national experiences.

26. Another speaker expressed the hope that the Summit would devote some attention to the specific problems of countries with economies in transition.

Those countries could benefit from the guidance and experience provided by the international community.

27. One representative emphasized that the Summit would be a social summit and should not be turned into a forum for discussion of economic issues.

28. It was important to avoid creating financial burdens and to encourage the efficient use of scarce resources. Another representative suggested that funding would be needed to ensure the full participation of developing country representatives during the preparatory process.

29. One participant, supported by another, favoured convening an extraordinary session of the Commission in 1994, before the first substantive session of the Preparatory Committee. They noted that, because of the special expertise of the Commission in social matters, it had a particular contribution to make to preparations for the Summit. Another participant suggested that the Commission hold annual sessions. Several speakers expressed the view that an extraordinary session of the Commission was not required as it had already been agreed to establish a preparatory committee to plan the Summit.

30. In addressing the issue of employment, the representative of the International Labour Organisation stressed the need to ensure a partnership of employers, workers and Governments. A representative of the United Nations Development Programme stated that effective social policy must be inclusive and multisectoral, and involved encouraging a process to widen choices and increase participation, to empower people and allow them to control the processes that affected their lives. Special emphasis should be given to empowering women. The representative of the United Nations Population Fund mentioned the convening of the World Conference on Population and Development, to be held at Cairo from 5 to 13 September 1994, and suggested that it would contribute substantially to the preparations for the Summit.

Action taken by the Commission

31. At the 10th meeting, on 15 February, the representative of the United States of America introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.5/1993/L.2), entitled "Agenda of the World Summit for Social Development", which read as follows:

> "*The Commission for Social Development*,
>
> "*Recalling* General Assembly resolution 47/92 of 16 December 1992, which recommended that the Commission for Social Development give consideration to the agenda of the World Summit for Social Development at its thirty-third session,
>
> "*Recalling also* the Guiding Principles for Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes in the Near Future (E/CONF.80/10),
>
> "*Having considered* the 1993 Report on the World Social Situation (E/1993/50), as well as the report of the Secretary-General (E/1993/50/Add.1) on the implementation of the Declaration on Social Progress and Development (resolution 2543 (XXIV)),

"Convinced that the World Summit for Social Development should be the culmination of a pragmatic process of consultation by experts in the field of social development, with a view to identifying and putting forward realistic and practical programmes that could be undertaken to improve the lives of the most disadvantaged,

"Convinced also that effective and sustainable social development cannot be achieved by Governments alone, but requires a process of democratic decision-making in which people, acting individually or through independent organizations of their own choosing, can participate in the formulation and implementation of social policy,

"Recognizing the important role played by the specialized agencies of the United Nations system in the promotion of social development, and the need to call upon their individual as well as their collective expertise, and to improve the coordination among them, rather than to create new institutional mechanisms,

"Recognizing also that the World Summit for Social Development could be a moral force for the achievement of conditions under which all individuals, without fear or discrimination, can participate fully and equitably in the societies in which they live,

"Noting the special responsibility of the United Nations system to those who, through no fault of their own, face special problems,

"1. Affirms that the World Summit for Social Development, in dealing with the core issues as outlined in General Assembly resolution 47/92, should focus primarily upon the dysfunctional social conditions which are the root causes of the poverty, unemployment, underemployment and inequality of vast segments of the world's population;

"2. Recommends that the following agenda, divided into six modules, be adopted for the World Summit for Social Development:

"1. Empowerment and social integration, including:

"(a) Promotion of the integration of socially marginalized and disadvantaged groups;

"(b) Empowerment, equal access and personal choice;

"(c) Identification of successful, cost-effective programmes in countries at various levels of development which enhance the integration of persons with disabilities, the continued independence and productivity of the elderly, and the contributions of the young;

"(d) Organization and role of democratic, grass-roots, non-governmental organizations in promoting social development and in giving broader segments of society a role in defining development goals;

"(e) Role of non-governmental organizations in promoting the independence and self-reliance of their members;

"2. Social structures and trends, including:

"(a) Role of the family as an instrument of social development;

"(b) Relationship between, and social impact of, population growth and poverty;

"(c) Enhancement of social mobility and the elimination of rigid class structures which foster the inequitable distribution of economic power;

"3. Role of education and training, including:

"(a) Essential contribution of education to sustainable development;

"(b) Promotion of universal education;

"(c) Enhancement of continuing education and training;

"4. Employment and role of the private sector, both business and private voluntary organizations, including:

"(a) Elimination of child labour practices;

"(b) Wage policies, protections relating to wages and working hours, industrial relations systems, social security schemes, non-discriminatory employment practices and labour legislation;

"(c) Partnership between business and society in social development: promotion of socially responsible business practices in a climate of growth and sustainable development;

"(d) Discrimination in credit and capital formation: limits on the entrepreneurial class;

"(e) Improving the conditions of workers, especially in rural and informal sectors, and increasing their access to markets, credit, technology, training and social services;

"(f) Role of private voluntary organizations;

"5. Role of government and good governance, including:

"(a) Guaranteeing basic human rights, including, in particular, freedom of association, the right to organize and free collective bargaining;

"(b) Programmes to ensure legal protection and strengthen the rule of law;

"(c) Elimination of corruption;

"(d) Budgeting for human development: improving social returns by reordering spending priorities towards investment that creates social multiplier effects, such as investment in basic education and primary health care;

"(e) Negative impact of paternalistic policies;

"(f) Efficient delivery of social services for the more disadvantaged sectors of society;

"(g) Use of market mechanisms to respond to social demands;

"(h) Effect of agricultural policies on rural societies;

"6. Reform and revitalization of the social development sector in the United Nations system, including:

"(a) Reform and revitalization of the Commission for Social Development, including increased coordination with the work of the Commission on the Status of Women, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, the Commission on Human Rights, the International Labour Organisation, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Development Programme and other organizations in the United Nations system working in the area of social development;

"(b) Enhancement of coordination within the United Nations system in the area of social development;

"(c) Rationalizing and restructuring the work of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs in order to ensure complementarity and avoid duplication of the work of the specialized agencies, on the basis of a pragmatic and realistic programme of work for the next decade."

32. At the same meeting, the representative of the Sudan made a statement.

33. At the 14th meeting, on 17 February, the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole on the World Summit for Social Development, Mr. Koos Richelle (Netherlands), introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.5/1993/L.16), entitled "World Summit for Social Development".

34. In introducing the draft resolution, the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole stated his belief that the resolution provided a dignified response by the Commission for Social Development to the request of the General Assembly that the Commission give consideration to the agenda for the World Summit for Social Development and to the question of holding an extraordinary session dedicated solely to the question of the Summit before the first substantive session of the Preparatory Committee for the Summit in 1994.

35. He further stated that the decision that an extraordinary session of the Commission was not required indicated a serious attempt to avoid duplication. Nevertheless, he said, the Commission had put itself at the disposal of the

Economic and Social Council and the Preparatory Committee for the Summit, offering its expertise to the preparatory process for the World Summit for Social Development and its follow-up.

36. Referring to the text of the annex to the resolution, the Chairman stated that mention of North-North cooperation (sect. A, para. 7) was included specifically to draw attention to assistance to countries in transition to a market economy, in addition to various other opportunities for such cooperation. Referring to the intervention of a non-governmental organization during the Committee of the Whole, the Chairman reiterated that the World Summit for Social Development provided an indication of shared world-wide commitment to putting people at the centre of development and encouraged the involvement of non-governmental organizations in the preparations for the Summit. He indicated that there was a broad understanding in the Committee of the Whole that this involvement was to be desired and encouraged.

37. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft resolution (see chap I, sect. D, resolution 33/1).

38. After the draft resolution was adopted, the representatives of France and the United States of America made statements.

39. At the same meeting, in the light of the adoption of draft resolution E/CN.5/1993/L.16, draft resolution E/CN.5/1993/L.2 was withdrawn by its sponsor.

Chapter III

MONITORING OF INTERNATIONAL PLANS AND PROGRAMMES OF ACTION

40. The Commission considered item 4 of its agenda at its 5th to 8th and 10th meetings, on 10 to 12 and 15 February 1993. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Guiding Principles for Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes in the Near Future (A/48/56-E/1993/6);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on progress achieved and obstacles encountered in implementing the social development goals and objectives of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade (E/1993/5);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the major issues and programme activities of the United Nations Secretariat and the regional commissions relating to social development and welfare and specific social groups (E/CN.5/1993/2 and Add.1);

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on the state of preparations for the International Year of the Family (E/CN.5/1993/3);

(e) Report of the expert group meeting on a long-term strategy to further the implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons to the year 2000 and beyond (E/CN.5/1993/4);

(f) Report of the ad hoc open-ended working group to elaborate standard rules on the equalization of opportunities for disabled persons (E/CN.5/1993/5);

(g) Report of the Secretary-General on the third review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Plan of Action on Ageing (E/CN.5/1993/7);

(h) Report of the Secretary-General containing a draft calendar of activities to mark the tenth anniversary of International Youth Year and a draft world programme of action for youth towards the year 2000 and beyond (E/CN.5/1993/10);

(i) Note verbale dated 29 October 1992 from the Permanent Mission of Finland to the international organizations at Vienna, addressed to the Secretary-General (E/CN.5/1993/12).

A. Guiding Principles for Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes in the Near Future

41. The Director of the Social Development Division of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs introduced the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Guiding Principles for Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes in the Near Future (A/48/56-E/1993/6). The report concluded that social problems had increased in severity and complexity throughout the world. Despite progress towards achievement of certain goals of the Guiding Principles, social conditions had deteriorated in many countries, often reaching catastrophic levels.

42. However, in response to that alarming situation, the value of social policy as an integral component of strategies for societal management and development had become increasingly recognized. The cost to society of not carrying out in an effective manner comprehensive social policies was increasingly acknowledged to be very high. Widespread efforts were being made to adjust the scope and emphasis of social policies and to introduce innovative measures. An important convergence of views had taken place among Governments, the United Nations system and specialists, with emphasis being placed on the value of adopting a mutually reinforcing set of measures that stressed human dignity and worth, that sought to realize the potential of the human resource constituted by every individual, including those who were disadvantaged or dysfunctional, and that promoted microlevel associations for mutual self-help, including families and cooperatives, as part of wider efforts to strengthen civil society and achieve effective democratic participation by all in national life.

43. In drawing the attention of the Commission to the note verbale dated 29 October 1992 from the Permanent Mission of Finland to the international organizations at Vienna, addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting to the Commission the report of an international meeting of experts entitled "Towards a competitive society in Central and Eastern Europe: social dimensions", the Director of the Social Development Division noted that the findings of the meeting of experts, which had focused on enhancing the spirit of entrepreneurship, were of great topical interest in many countries.

44. A number of representatives from both developed and developing countries, as well as from countries in the process of transformation to market economies, observed that profound structural changes, economic stagnation in many parts of the world and the plight of large numbers of people showed that it remained imperative to accelerate the efforts being made to advance social development. One representative noted that the timeliness of the current concern with social development could hardly be called into question. Another representative stressed that social development was an important policy issue precisely because it played so important a role in contributing to the further progress of human civilization. Hence, it must be looked at from a strategic standpoint.

45. Several participants, one speaking on behalf of the members of a regional group, stressed the importance they attached to achieving both the social objectives of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade and the targets and objectives set out in the

Guiding Principles for Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes in the Near Future, which were still considered to provide a valuable framework for social policy development. One speaker reaffirmed the adherence of her Government to the cardinal principles set out in the Declaration on Social Progress and Development (proclaimed by the General Assembly in its resolution 2542 (XXIV) of 11 December 1969), which had provided the basis on which the Guiding Principles had been formulated. An observer noted that the Guiding Principles had made important contributions to the recent evolution of national, and even international, social policy. For example, the current programme of cooperation among the Nordic countries in respect of health and social welfare had been based upon the World Health Organization strategy of "Health for All" and on the Guiding Principles.

46. Nevertheless, several representatives considered that further efforts were needed. One expressed disappointment at the fact that the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade had not met the expectations of developing countries. Moreover, progress in achieving the objectives and targets of the Guiding Principles had been uneven. Another representative noted that the various reports before the Commission had indicated that the social component continued to lag behind the economic in plans and projects of economic revitalization or adjustment. In the current depressed economic environment it would take longer for the social component of development programmes to bring about progress towards desirable levels. In that regard, it was urged that greater attention be given within social policy development to the question of employment creation. It was also observed that in the current circumstances the central concern must be to maintain momentum and to redirect efforts towards more concrete and action-oriented measures.

47. Several representatives and an observer referred to the social dimensions of international peace and security. One representative stressed the need to realize the strategic significance of social policy as a potential means of contributing to the maintenance of world peace. The Security Council meeting at the level of Heads of State and Government (see S/23500), which had taken place in early 1992, culminating in the report of the Secretary-General entitled "An agenda for peace: preventive diplomacy, peacemaking and peace-keeping" (A/47/277-S/24111), had ushered in an unprecedented approach by the international community to the search for durable peace and stability, and social development issues had been highlighted as an inseparable component of such a comprehensive approach. Another representative noted the need to confront the alarming increase in inter-ethnic violence and discrimination, which was occurring in many parts of the world and which demonstrated a lack of tolerance and respect for the religion and social background of others. The impact upon children was particularly severe.

18. Several speakers considered that adequate arrangements for monitoring conditions, their causes and progress made towards achieving internationally agreed objectives were needed. Such arrangements were prerequisites for the realistic stocktaking that should form an essential part of preparations for the World Summit for Social Development. The results of monitoring and evaluation should provide a basis for identification of effective and concrete actions designed to accelerate progress in those aspects hitherto not given sufficient priority, which should be undertaken both within the countries concerned and within bilateral and multilateral programmes.

49. However, it was intrinsically difficult to monitor, assess and evaluate progress in many of the areas covered by social policies, as both conditions and policy objectives and instruments were so complex. Because of the complexities involved, reports on monitoring tended to be very wide-ranging. It was therefore important, especially in preparing for the World Summit, to be selective and to concentrate on aspects of central importance. At future sessions of the Commission it might be appropriate to concentrate on monitoring certain concrete elements of international plans and programmes in order to avoid the risk of an examination that lacked sufficient focus.

50. One representative stated that his Government continued to believe firmly in the universal availability of social services through a comprehensive social insurance system.

51. One observer noted that it was extremely important for the United Nations to contribute towards the establishment of an international pool of comparable data on social policy to enable Governments in particular to learn how the root causes rather than the symptoms of social dysfunction were being attacked in other countries.

52. A number of representatives drew the attention of the Commission to the adjustments in social policies, some very far-reaching, that were being made in their countries in response to new and often alarming conditions. The emphasis was on effective participation, subsidiarity and intervention by Governments, principally to support the efforts of individuals, families and communities themselves, as well as to prevent or interrupt the downward spiral of individuals into a state of serious dysfunction.

53. Some representatives considered that the transformation in social policy had been greatest in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, engaged in the establishment of market economies in conditions inherited from many decades of socialist central planning. One observer noted that, as a result of political and economic transformations culminating in the very recent achievement of national independence, it had been necessary to completely transform social policies inherited from the previous system of societal management. An important principle of the new social policy was subsidiarity: each citizen would be expected to be responsible for his or her own welfare. In an emergency the State would rely on the family as the first level of social support to individuals. The family would itself be given direct support for that purpose, supplemented by community-based and State-based services. A new system of social insurance attempted to integrate the principle of social solidarity with a merit system based on the contributions of those who could pay. State support helped to compensate people who experienced short- or long-term difficulties during transition to a market economy. That included in particular families with children, disabled persons and the unemployed.

54. One representative drew attention to the emphasis placed by her Government on decentralization of responsibilities from central to local authorities, which were better aware of local conditions and able to respond more quickly and effectively to local needs. Designing the measures needed to make that approach operational had been facilitated by the United Nations Interregional Adviser on Social Policies and Development. Another representative, indicating the continuing support of his Government for the

Guidelines, as a useful instrument particularly in regard to identifying priorities in the choice of social policy actors, nevertheless considered it important to stress the principle of subsidiarity, which was a central element of his country's liberal perception of humanity. While the State retained an important role in setting guidelines for action by the decentralized public sector and by the private sector, and in guaranteeing that the provision of social protection and benefits was sufficient throughout society, the task of providing such protection and benefits should lie with private organizations, families and citizens themselves. Only in that way was it possible to ensure an adequate range of social programmes adapted to the variety of individual needs. Nevertheless, the Government felt a responsibility for further strengthening and supporting private efforts, particularly in those regions and in respect of those social conditions that had hitherto been neglected.

55. One speaker explained that a central objective of national social and welfare policy in his country was to prevent individuals and groups of persons from being caught in a downward spiral of events and conditions that ended in their marginalization and isolation in a minority status, characterized by their insufficient participation in society and dependency on all kinds of services. Current policies were based on the conviction that such a downward spiral could in fact be interrupted and then reversed, stimulating people to be more active and encouraging them to participate in a more integrated fashion in society, thereby maintaining and even strengthening their independence and freedom. In keeping with that conviction, a central role was accorded in policy formulation and implementation to individuals and groups of individuals, as well as to non-governmental organizations providing social welfare and support services. An observer noted that it was precisely because of the emphasis on participation and integration that his Government wholeheartedly supported the international plans, programmes and activities initiated by the United Nations.

56. With regard to the emphasis on effective and full participation, mutual self-help and full mobilization of human resources, the representative of a non-governmental organization observed that one of the least-utilized resources available for human development was leisure time. That resource could be mobilized with significant results, as substantial and scarcely used amounts of leisure time could be made available by many components of society, including in particular the young, the aged, many persons with disabilities and the unemployed.

57. A number of speakers drew attention to progress achieved at the regional level and, in some cases, to the lack of it. One representative noted the stimulus provided by the holding of the Fourth Asian and Pacific Ministerial Conference on Social Welfare and Social Development, hosted by her Government. An observer referred to the action taken by her Government to host one of the regional conferences recommended by the Guiding Principles as an important means to ensure their effective follow-up; specifically, the Third Conference of European Ministers Responsible for Social Affairs would be held at Bratislava in June and July 1993. The main theme of the Conference would be the integration of social development policy, with a focus on both social and family policies from a gender and a generational perspective. The observer stressed that the ongoing process of transition to a market economy in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe had brought about social conditions that might be eased through the implementation of new social and

family policies. The Conference would thus examine the social and family policies needed to deal with a transformed European region. However, another representative expressed concern that the Economic Commission for Europe appeared not to have given sufficient attention to social development, even though there were more than enough social problems in the European region.

58. The importance of taking due account of the close mutual relationships between different social policy areas was addressed. One representative noted that, although it was important to bear in mind the difference between population policy and family policy, it was none the less necessary to be aware of the intricate relationships between the two: demographic trends imposed a need to review family policy options. An observer noted that the wide range of items considered under agenda item 4 suggested strongly that the agenda for the World Summit would have to be carefully prepared. It would be important to identify those social policy concepts of a general nature that might be relevant to a wide range of national conditions. One such universal concept was that of participation, which was emphasized in respect of policies designed to bring about an improvement in the condition of each of the separate categories of individuals suffering from a disadvantage. The identification of such universally relevant concepts would help to bring about a meaningful exchange of experience among countries, overcoming the fact that social policy was very much an internal concern, reflecting particular national societal conditions. Moreover, their identification would help to bring unity among the different social policy areas, and to strengthen the current trend towards a truly comprehensive, rather than a segmented, approach to social policy.

59. Finally, one representative, reviewing United Nations activities in the formulation, implementation and monitoring of international instruments, plans and guidelines, drew attention to the budgetary constraints which the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, the United Nations entity primarily engaged in such work, had suffered from its very beginning. Had it not been for the generosity of some Member States, in particular the Nordic countries, which had made considerable voluntary financial contributions, a number of activities of the Centre could not have been maintained. Member States could not expect that the Centre could deal with the ever-growing problems brought to it by Member States without being granted the necessary financial and personnel resources. The speaker was also of the opinion that social affairs could be dealt with more efficiently in an autonomous United Nations centre than joined together with other important matters, in particular economic affairs, in a department at United Nations Headquarters.

B. International Year of the Family, 1994

60. In introducing the topic, the Director of the Social Development Division and Coordinator of the International Year of the Family emphasized the crucial role of the current and last session of the Commission as preparatory body for the Year in establishing the conceptual framework for international action in support of national and local preparations for and observance of the Year in 1994. The Coordinator noted that the report of the Secretary-General on the state of preparations for the Year (E/CN.5/1993/3), which the Commission had before it, could not describe the full range of activities at all levels undertaken as part of the preparations for and observance of the Year. The

growing support for the Year among Member States was illustrated by the four regional preparatory meetings for the Year to be convened in 1993, by the interest demonstrated in institution-building and infrastructure development at the national and international levels, and by the contributions to the Year through financial support of the Voluntary Fund for Preparation for and Observance of the Year, and in-kind contributions or staff secondments to the secretariat for the Year. The Coordinator also described the collaborative action being taken in concert with organizations and agencies within the United Nations system and the broad spectrum of activities being undertaken by non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations. He expressed gratitude for the contributions made by Member States and the private sector in particular, and for their support of the Year.

61. Many representatives expressed satisfaction with the achievements of the preparatory process for the Year and with the secretariat for having launched, despite severe resource constraints, an effective and well-executed campaign from a promotional, substantive and organizational standpoint, as illustrated by the growing momentum and action at all levels in support of the Year.

62. The pivotal role of families in society was widely affirmed. Many representatives asserted the importance of supporting families as the basic social institution ensuring the survival of human society and the well-being of family members. The need to recognize and emphasize the importance of families was stressed as a critical objective of the Year, as was the need to develop concrete and long-range approaches to support families in fulfilling their role. Numerous representatives confirmed the priority that was given to families at the national level, and the commitment to enhance tangible support to them as a concrete accomplishment of the Year.

63. Many speakers stressed the importance of recognizing the diverse forms of families and the changing patterns of family life that were emerging, expressing the hope that such diversity would continue to be respected in the preparations and planning for the Year, and that policies and society would remain open to the diverse forms that families could take. It was noted that promoting a better understanding of the changing patterns of family life was an important objective that should be reflected in the policy, legislation, research and other outcomes of the Year. The situations of single-parent families and of declining traditional extended family structures were emphasized.

64. The individual rights of family members were discussed by many representatives, with particular emphasis on the changing roles of men and women and the situation of children in families. It was noted that relationships within families should provide a foundation for the equality of men and women in society in general, and that this potential should be activated through the Year. The family was also described as an important mechanism for cultivating respect for human rights, racial and religious tolerance and sensitivity to the rights of particularly vulnerable groups. Issues such as domestic violence and the effects of ethnic violence, discrimination and racism were identified as important subjects of the Year.

65. The role of families as social policy actors was stressed by numerous speakers. Families were described in terms of their pivotal functions in the care and support of the aged, disabled persons or other vulnerable groups,

their role in the education, protection, care and nurturing of children, and as agents of environmental protection, crime prevention and socio-economic development. The important roles of families in the transmission of culture and values, emotional support of members, and population renewal were also identified. It was widely recognized that such contributions to the well-being of individuals, communities and society should be reflected in appropriate legislation, policy and tangible supports to assist families in the discharge of these and other functions.

66. The stresses being exerted on family units were described by many representatives, including particular problems associated with poverty, unemployment, economic adjustment, transitional economies, child care, changing expectations within the family, environmental degradation, family fragmentation, health risks, the interplay of family and work responsibilities, migration, violence and cultural and demographic change. The need for a fuller appreciation of the vulnerability of and supports required by families was widely expressed.

67. A number of key issues were identified, often as priorities to be addressed by actions undertaken at the national level associated with the preparations for and observance of the Year. Such priority issues included: violence in the family; equality between men and women in families and in society; child protection; child care and associated services; preparation of youth for family life; intergenerational equity and relations; changing family structures; erosion of traditional family support networks, including extended family structures; labour migration and migrant families; balancing work and family responsibilities; health and nutrition; income and food security; rural and urban families; environmental conservation and agriculture; poverty and income security.

68. A number of representatives described the roles and responsibilities of Governments in the support of families, including approaches, which involve families as fully as possible in decisions that affect them, support family associations, complement and build on the strengths of families, and revitalize the role of families in community life. It was widely recognized that non-governmental and grass-roots organizations would play a pivotal role in enabling families to participate actively in the Year and in the longer-term process of social development by and for families. A number of representatives stressed the need for infrastructure development at the local, national and international levels to support tangible, concrete actions in the service of families, including enhanced training of helping professionals, development and exchange of research, expertise and policy experience, the development of informed family policy, and legislation.

69. Many representatives described extensive plans or actions undertaken to identify national coordinating mechanisms to prepare for and observe the Year. National coordinating committees, sometimes under the leadership of Heads of State or Government, were frequently mentioned, as were other institutional arrangements designed to facilitate research and training; policy, programme and legislative review; promotional activities and public education; judicial reform; international exchanges and legislative or policy development. Organizational activities were characterized by the involvement of non-governmental organizations, the private sector, governmental bodies at

all levels and across jurisdictions, as well as families themselves, individually or through their representative groups.

70. Such institutional arrangements were complemented by a diverse range of specific projects being undertaken in connection with the Year, including research activities; publication programmes; media strategies; promotional events; expert meetings and conferences on family issues; policy analysis and development; programmes of legislative reform or development; support of the secretariat for the Year and of technical and advisory assistance to developing countries; educational and training activities for professional groups, families and individuals; funding programmes for family services or projects relating to the Year; cultural events; and development of long-term strategies for family support at the local, national, regional and international levels.

71. The need for concerted action at the regional and international level was emphasized. Several speakers noted the importance of the forthcoming regional preparatory meetings for the formulation of international plans of action, while others called for strengthened action on the part of the regional commissions in connection with the Year and on the question of the family in general. A number of representatives reaffirmed the importance of United Nations involvement in a sustained initiative for families, including the follow-up to existing international instruments or agreements relating to the family. It was further suggested that the subject of families be reflected in the World Summit for Social Development and other emerging social development activities at the intergovernmental and international levels. A few speakers, including participants from non-governmental organizations, voiced support for the adoption by the United Nations of a declaration on the role, responsibilities and rights of the family. One speaker, supported by other participants, proposed that the Bratislava International Centre of Family Studies be affiliated with the United Nations.

72. The importance of integrating families and family concerns more fully into broad strategies of social and economic development was emphasized. It was also noted that the Year should provide an opportunity to reconsider the impact of progress on the family, and to build alliances for concerted long-term action in support of families. Many representatives indicated that the Year was a starting-point for long-term actions and strategies at the national level, described by one representative as an impulse for further activities reaching beyond 1994.

73. A number of speakers representing non-governmental organizations reported on the progress of their preparations for the Year and offered strong support to the United Nations effort in that regard. They presented an impressive record of activities, particularly at the grass-roots level, notwithstanding major international events, notably, the world non-governmental organization forum, "Launching the International Year of the Family 1994: Strengthening Families for the Well-being of Individuals and Societies", to be held at Valletta, Malta, from 28 November to 2 December 1993, and an international congress for families, "Familyfest '93", to be held at Rome on 5 June 1993 and broadcast live via satellite.

C. Implementation of the guidelines for further planning and suitable follow-up in the field of youth

74. In his introductory statement, the Director of the Social Development Division emphasized that eight years after the observance of International Youth Year in 1985, the international community was still witnessing the continuing vulnerability of young people in society. In many countries of the world, youth unemployment and underemployment had worsened, especially among young women, and malnutrition, sexually transmitted diseases and substance abuse were affecting the health and well-being of adolescents world wide. There was a rising incidence of juvenile delinquency and crime around the world, and a large proportion of rural youth did not enjoy the benefits of development and progress. The realization of that rather bleak scenario had resulted in the designation of 1995, the tenth anniversary of International Youth Year, as a vehicle to infuse new dynamism into an important segment of the social policy programme of the United Nations.

75. In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1991/11 of 30 May 1991, the Commission had established an open-ended ad hoc working group to prepare a draft calendar of activities to mark the tenth anniversary of International Youth Year, and to prepare a draft world youth programme of action towards the year 2000 and beyond, taking into account regional youth programmes of action.

76. Several representatives described their national policies and programmes aimed at youth development. Key initiatives and programmes geared towards the integration of youth into society were cited, such as education and out-of-school activities for underprivileged youth, vocational training, employment, health services, including prevention of acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS), youth exchanges, legislation, protection of the human rights of youth, and provision of housing for young people.

77. An overview of the situation of youth was provided by some representatives, highlighting various critical and emerging issues confronting young people. Reference was made to socio-economic problems often associated with development, such as rapid demographic growth, inadequate housing, industrialization, urbanization, youth unemployment, lack of family cohesion, erosion of traditional values, and the inability of the education system to respond to new challenges. Several representatives described the impact of poor economic and social conditions, including lack of educational and job opportunities among young people, which continued to have adverse effects on the integration and participation of youth in society. The need to undertake a thorough re-evaluation of youth programmes, in the context of the tenth anniversary of International Youth Year, was stressed by another representative.

78. Several representatives stressed the need to place more emphasis on education and employment for youth, as well as aid to families to prevent juvenile delinquency. One representative emphasized the importance of promoting and preserving cultural values among youth. A representative of a non-governmental organization noted that more emphasis should be placed on the potential of youth to solve the problems of the next century.

79. The formulation of the world programme of action for youth towards the year 2000 and beyond was supported by several representatives. One representative suggested that the world programme focus on leadership training for youth, self-employment assistance, special services for youth with special needs, such as young disabled persons and young offenders, strengthening of spiritual, moral and cultural values among youth, and promotion of capabilities and skills training for youth, particularly in cooperation with non-governmental organizations. Another representative expressed the hope that the relevant United Nations agencies and bodies would combine their efforts to ensure the refinement and elaboration of the world programme of action for youth, as well as to ensure the promotion, elaboration and implementation of regional plans of action on youth.

80. Several representatives welcomed the holding of the World Summit for Social Development in 1995 as an opportunity to deal with integrative policies for marginalized groups, including youth, particularly since the three themes of the world summit (social integration, employment and poverty) provided an organic linkage with the tenth anniversary of International Youth Year.

D. Review of the implementation of the International Plan of Action on Ageing

81. The Commission conducted the third review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Plan of Action on Ageing, 17/ on the basis of a report of the Secretary-General on the subject (E/CN.5/1993/7). Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 47/86, the Commission had established an ad hoc informal working group to give adequate consideration to the question. The Director of the Social Development Division observed that in the field of ageing, the international community was witnessing an unprecedented change: in the 10 years since the adoption of the Plan of Action, the global population of the elderly had increased by 100 million persons; by the year 2001 another 125 million older persons would be added to that number. He further stated that, on the basis of its experience in reconceptualizing and redefining the different aspects of the Plan of Action, the United Nations had embarked on a variety of specific activities. Those efforts had been crowned by the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, which, as a result of its special plenary meetings devoted to the tenth anniversary of the World Assembly on Ageing, had approved a set of global targets on ageing for the year 2001 in its resolution 47/86 of 16 October 1992, and, in its resolution 47/5 of 16 October 1992, adopted a Proclamation on Ageing, and designated the year 1999 as the International Year of Older Persons.

82. In introducing the report of the Secretary-General on the third review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Plan of Action on Ageing, the Director of the Social Development Division said that it emphasized the emerging issues in the field of ageing, outlined priorities for the decade ahead, and suggested measures for further streamlining the implementation of the Plan of Action within the context of the global targets on ageing.

83. Several representatives noted with appreciation the innovative approach used in the preparation of the report, and endorsed its recommendations, which

provided a pragmatic focus for the broad and ideal goals of the Plan of Action and for the acceleration of its implementation into the next millennium.

84. Reference was made by several representatives to the impact of the demographic revolution taking place in the ageing of populations throughout the world. Some representatives mentioned that the main objective of the Year of Older People and Solidarity between Generations, designated by the European Community as 1993, was to prepare the ground for the changes required to deal with such a revolution.

85. Most speakers stressed that encouraging achievements had occurred since the adoption of the Plan of Action in 1982, and that the global targets and United Nations Principles for Older Persons, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 46/91 of 16 December 1991, represented an important framework for action to further its implementation. Others stated that much remained to be done, and that achieving the objectives of the Plan of Action included not only attaining greater awareness of the question of ageing, but also translating that awareness into appropriate responses. To ensure that the targets were reached by the year 2001, one representative noted that an integrated approach was necessary whereby United Nations organs and bodies dealing with social issues would become more coordinated than was currently the case. He hoped that the next report to the Commission on the subject would highlight whether such coordination had occurred.

86. Many representatives stressed the importance of using the experience and capabilities of the elderly for the benefit of the whole of society; they should serve wherever possible as transmitters of information, knowledge, tradition and spiritual values. This emphasis on the potentially valuable contribution of the elderly could be called a revaluation of old age.

87. One representative described a major initiative being undertaken by his Government aimed at creating a network of opportunities for the elderly to integrate them into various activities in their communities on the basis of their own interests and abilities. The initiative focused on voluntary action as an instrument of social reintegration, with the aim of promoting the correct and positive image of the senior citizen as a productive human being within society.

88. Other measures being contemplated by Governments were mentioned, including the establishment of research and academic institutions to strengthen scientific research on ageing; continuing support for the family as an institution for the care of the elderly; expansion and strengthening of community-based services for the elderly; encouraging their active participation in social development programmes; and maximizing the partnership between Governments and non-governmmental organizations in the advocacy of the rights of the elderly. Several representatives stressed that non-governmental organizations could play an important role by elaborating programmes directed at using the resources of the elderly.

89. It was noted that, given the universal wish of older people to continue living in their own environment for as long as possible, emphasis should be placed on adapting that environment by creating secure surroundings, building adaptable housing, improving existing housing stock and providing good public transport.

90. Despite the progress already achieved, one representative emphasized that the institutional infrastructures of developing countries as a whole had been inadequate to meet the needs of their ageing populations. Another noted that as a result of changes in the African socio-economic structures, traditional support systems were being eroded. Elderly people without family support, who required State and international assistance, were beginning to emerge. Migration of the young to the cities meant that the elderly were left in the rural areas, thereby depriving them of much-needed social security. Recent demographic changes as well as economic and environmental changes had had a significiant impact on the support of the elderly, which traditional family care alone could no longer provide. Another representative stressed that in his country, the elderly represented a social category that required the most economic assistance, since they had not benefited from modernization as much as the rest of society; a considerable number lived under the poverty line.

91. Several speakers noted that among the many challenges to society being posed by the demographic revolution, one important consideration was that in order to provide decent incomes for the elderly, an increasingly heavier burden on pension payments was being borne by fewer people in the labour market.

92. One representative reiterated a call for the strengthening of the African Society of Gerontology, since he was convinced that regional efforts would greatly assist Governments in developing their policies on ageing.

93. One participant expressed the need to give more global weight to policies aimed at increasing the autonomy of the elderly, with an international effort being made to enhance and promote such policies. It was also important to put in place studies and enact legislation to secure the rights of the elderly. Such legislation was already being drafted in several countries, and in one country it would be enacted to celebrate the International Day for the Elderly in 1993.

E. Implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons

94. In introducing the topic, the Director of the Social Development Division stressed that the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons had markedly transformed the global understanding of disability issues. The success of the Decade had been widely acknowledged by the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, particularly in its special plenary debates. He noted that the concerns of persons with disabilities had finally found their way onto the international agenda. In addition to the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons, the draft Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities and the draft long-term strategy to further the implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons would soon constitute the substantive backbone of the global programme. The draft Standard Rules reflected the new trends and priorities which had emerged from the Decade and provided tangible options for the years to come. The Director invited the Commission to put forth suggestions to further refine the text of the draft long-term strategy.

95. In view of the number of issues that required in-depth consideration under this topic, the Commission established an informal ad hoc working group on disability.

96. Several representatives referred to the achievements of the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons and stressed the need for a persistent effort by the international community to sustain the momentum generated by the Decade. Reference was made to the outcome of several major events marking the end of the Decade, such as the International Congress and Exposition on Disability, "Independence 1992", held at Vancouver from 22 to 25 April 1992; the International Conference of Ministers Responsible for Disability Issues, held at Montreal on 8 and 9 October 1992; and the special plenary sessions of the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session. One representative said that her Government would continue to facilitate the efforts of the working group of Ministers, established by the International Conference of Ministers at Montreal, to develop an ongoing mechanism to support continued ministerial collaboration on disability matters at the international level.

97. Several representatives reiterated the shift of focus of the disability programme of the United Nations from awareness to action. Noting that special attention should be given to the situation of persons with disabilities in developing countries, a number of representatives stressed the need for multilateral and bilateral technical assistance programmes.

98. Many speakers expressed their appreciation of the results of the work of the ad hoc open-ended working group to elaborate standard rules on the equalization of opportunities for disabled persons and their support for the draft Standard Rules. It was noted that the Standard Rules were an important contribution to the process of full equalization of opportunities for disabled persons. They represented an ambitious and positive effort to improve the lives of persons with disabilities around the world, and provided a sound basis on which Governments could develop their disability policies. Although not legally binding, the Standard Rules were flexible and universally applicable. It was noted that the document gave significant attention to the important role that people with disabilities, their families, advocates and organizations could play in the development of policies and the design of services. Several representatives underlined the need to agree on an efficient and flexible monitoring system for the Standard Rules, which should not pass judgement, but offer advice and provide for constructive dialogue. It was stated that non-governmental organizations should also participate in the monitoring of the Standard Rules.

99. A number of representatives commented on the need for a long-term strategy. They noted that it should be closely related to the Standard Rules and contain priorities and a time-frame for action. The strategy should also recognize the important role of non-governmental organizations. The elaboration of the Standard Rules and the long-term strategy were the results of many years of combined efforts of experts from all regions. The documents made an important contribution to defining practical measures to ensure that persons with disabilities participated fully in the economic and social mainstream of society.

100. Several representatives recognized the World Programme of Action, the Standard Rules and the long-term strategy as the three pillars of the

disability policy of the United Nations, which would provide Member States with the necessary tools to move from awareness to action. The need for coordination of the monitoring mechanisms of the three instruments was recognized; the monitoring process should be as simple as possible and built on existing consultative mechanisms. One representative stated that it was important to have the three instruments as part of the same entity with the same monitoring mechanism.

Action taken by the Commission

1. International Day of Disabled Persons

101. At the 10th meeting, on 15 February, the representative of France, on behalf of Austria, Belarus, Cameroon, Canada, 28/ Chile, Costa Rica, 28/ the Dominican Republic, Ghana, Guinea, Haiti, Indonesia, Japan, 28/ Madagascar, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, Spain, 28/ Sweden and the United States of America introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.5/1993/L.3), entitled "International Day of Disabled Persons". Subsequently, Bolivia, Germany and the Czech Republic, 28/ joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

102. At the 13th meeting, on 16 February, the representative of France made a statement.

103. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft resolution (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution I).

2. Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities

104. At the 8th meeting, on 12 February, the Chairman of the informal working group on disability, Mrs. Elsie Mbella-Ngomba (Cameroon), introduced draft amendments (E/CN.5/1993/L.4) to the standard rules on the equalization of opportunities for disabled persons (see E/CN.5/1993/5).

105. In introducing the draft amendments, the Chairman of the informal working group on disability orally revised them, as follows:

> In paragraph 8 of Rule 6, the first sentence, which read:
>
> "In situations where no, or very limited, services are yet available in the general school system for students with disabilities, special education should be provided",

was replaced by the following text:

> "In situations where the general school system does not yet adequately meet the needs of all persons with disabilities, special education may be considered".

28/ In accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

106. At the 10th meeting, on 15 February, the Chairman of the informal working group on disability, Mrs. Mbella-Ngomba (Cameroon), introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.5/1993/L.10), entitled "Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities".

107. At the 14th meeting, on 17 February, the Secretary of the Commission read out a revision to the draft resolution, whereby the words "and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session" would be added at the end of operative paragraph 4.

108. At the same meeting, the Commission considered the amendments submitted by the Chairman of the informal working group on disability to the report of the ad hoc open-ended working group to elaborate standard rules on the equalization of opportunities for disabled persons (E/CN.5/1993/L.4/Rev.2). The Commission approved the amendments as submitted.

109. Also at the 14th meeting, the representative of the Programme Planning and Budget Division made a statement.

110. At the same meeting, following statements by the representatives of the Netherlands, Germany, the United States of America, Belarus and Argentina and the observers for the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Spain, Japan and Belgium, the Commission adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution II).

111. After the draft resolution was adopted, statements were made by the representatives of Sweden and Austria.

3. Development of a plan of action to implement the Long-Term Strategy to Further the Implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons

112. At the 10th meeting, on 15 February, the Chairman of the informal working group on disability, Mrs. Elsie Mbella-Ngomba (Cameroon), introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.5/1993/L.9), entitled "Development of a plan of action on disability".

113. At the 14th meeting, on 17 February, the Chairman of the working group on disability made a statement.

114. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of France and the United States of America and the observers for Canada, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Norway.

115. At the same meeting, the Director of the Social Development Division made a statement.

116. Also at the same meeting, the Chairman of the working group on disability read out revisions to the draft resolution, which had been agreed upon during informal consultations, as follows:

(a) The title of the draft resolution was revised to read: "Development of a plan of action to implement the Long-Term Strategy to Further the Implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons";

(b) The fifth and sixth preambular paragraphs, which read:

> "Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Expert Group Meeting on a Long-Term Strategy to Further the Implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons to the Year 2000 and Beyond (E/CN.5/1993/4), held at Vancouver from 25 to 29 April 1992, and endorsing the framework contained in it,
>
> "Welcoming the important input of non-governmental organizations of persons with disabilities to the report of the Expert Group Meeting".

were revised to read:

> "Taking note with appreciation of the report of the United Nations Expert Group Meeting on a Long-Term Strategy to Further the Implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons to the Year 2000 and Beyond, held at Vancouver from 25 to 29 April 1992, and of the important input of non-governmental organizations of persons with disabilities";

(c) A new preambular paragraph was added, which read:

> "Recognizing that the report represents a significant step forward in the development of the plan of action to implement the long-term strategy";

(d) In operative paragraph 4, the word "close", before the word "consultation", was deleted.

117. At the same meeting, following a statement by the representative of France, the Commission adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution III).

4. Positive and full inclusion of persons with disabilities in all aspects of society and the leadership role of the United Nations therein

118. At the 10th meeting, on 15 February, the representative of the United States of America, on behalf of Australia, 28/ Cameroon, Canada, 28/ the Dominican Republic, Sweden, the United States of America and Zimbabwe, introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.5/1993/L.7), entitled "Positive and full inclusion of persons with disabilities in all aspects of society and the leadership role of the United Nations therein". Subsequently, China, France, Ghana, Guinea, the Russian Federation and the Sudan joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

119. At the 14th meeting, on 17 February, the Secretary of the Commission read out revisions to the draft resolution, which had been agreed upon during informal consultations, as follows:

(a) After the fourteenth preambular paragraph, a new preambular paragraph was inserted, reading:

> "*Reaffirming* the commitment of the Commission for Social Development to the provisions and rules set out in the ongoing process of elaborating standard rules on the equalization of opportunities for persons with disabilities";

(b) In operative paragraph 2, the words "within existing" were replaced by the words "through redeployment of";

(c) Operative paragraph 4, which read:

> "4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider, in view of the importance of ensuring that the needs of people with disabilities and their families and communities are represented in an equitable manner, strengthening the status of the Disabled Persons Unit, within existing resources, and changing its name to the United Nations Programme for Persons with Disabilities";

was revised to read:

> "4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider, in view of the importance of ensuring that the needs of people with disabilities and their families and communities are represented in an equitable manner, strengthening and upgrading the status of the Disabled Persons Unit through redeployment of resources".

120. At the same meeting, following statements by the representative of the United States of America and the observers for Spain and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Commission adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution IV).

5. Contribution of comprehensive national social policies to societal management and to the solving of economic, environmental, demographic, cultural and political problems

121. At the 13th meeting, on 16 February, the representative of Sweden, on behalf of Cameroon, Chile, the Dominican Republic, Ghana, Guinea, Haiti, Norway, 28/ and Sweden, introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.5/1993/L.14), entitled "Contribution of comprehensive national social policies to societal management and to the solving of economic, environmental, demographic, cultural and political problems". The draft resolution read as follows:

> "*The General Assembly*,
>
> "*Recalling* its resolutions 42/125 of 7 December 1987, 44/65 of 8 December 1989 and 46/90 of 16 December 1991 on the Guiding Principles for Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes in the Near Future (E/CONF.80/10, chap. III), adopted by the Interregional Consultation on Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes, held at Vienna from 7 to 15 September 1987,

"*Recalling also* its resolution 47/92 on the convening of the World Summit for Social Development, to be held in Denmark in 1995, in which it decided, *inter alia*, that the core issues affecting all societies to be addressed by the Summit were: the enhancement of social integration, particularly of the more disadvantaged and marginalized groups; alleviation and reduction of poverty; and expansion of productive employment,

"*Convinced* that social policies are able to stimulate national economies, enhance the potential of human resources and help remove constraints upon their realization, contributing to the avoidance or reduction of ethnic, cultural and political tensions within and between national societies, facilitating the achievement of sustainable and ecologically rational forms of development and societal organization, and resolving problems arising from demographic conditions and trends which are not in harmony with societal conditions and objectives, and that because of this broad potential for facilitating the achievement of national goals, more attention needs to be given to formulation and management,

"*Convinced also* that a comprehensive national social policy, if formulated as a central element within a strategy for societal management, constitutes the most appropriate instrument whereby the many relevant policy objectives and measures may be effectively harmonized,

"*Believing* that appropriate institutional arrangements and instruments are required to achieve such levels of integration and coordination at the national level, and also to facilitate international cooperation in social policy formulation and implementation,

"1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Guiding Principles for Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes in the Near Future (A/48/56, chap. II);

"2. *Takes note also* of the conclusions reached and recommendations made in the report of the Expert Group Meeting on the Social Consequences of Population Growth and Changing Social Conditions, with Particular Emphasis on the Family, held at Vienna from 21 to 25 September 1992 (E/CN.5/1993/6);

"3. *Urges* Governments to accord to social policies a priority on the national agenda equal to that accorded to policies in other urgent spheres of public responsibility and societal management;

"4. *Encourages* Governments to formulate comprehensive national social policies designed, *inter alia*, to promote, facilitate and reward the contributions by all citizens to the reduction of sociopolitical tension and the development of a more ecologically rational and sustainable society;

"5. *Invites* Governments to take into consideration, in designing comprehensive national social policies, the possible relevance of the set of mutually reinforcing actions outlined by the Secretary-General in his report (A/48/56, para. 13 (a)-(l)), as well as the innovative strategy for sustainable human development currently being elaborated by the United Nations Development Programme;

"6. Recommends that Governments strengthen institutional arrangements whereby public and private sectors may coordinate their contributions to the development of a fully integrated and comprehensive national social policy, and ensure its integration as a central component in all national development planning and societal management procedures;

"7. Encourages Governments to take urgent measures to improve governmental accountability and transparency as well as administrative efficiency; to strengthen civil society and to make effective all forms of participatory democracy at local and national levels, in order to establish the essential preconditions for creating a context within which individuals, families and communities will be willing and able to respond to the incentives and disincentives included within public programmes; and to enhance local capacities for providing social services designed and managed with the full participation of all citizens;

"8. Requests the Secretary-General:

"(a) To ensure that the institutional arrangements adopted within the current restructuring of the economic, environmental and social sectors of the Secretariat will be such as to strengthen the capacity of the United Nations to provide the most effective support to Governments in their task of preparing comprehensive national social policies as central elements of their strategies for societal management;

"(b) To ensure, in particular, that in the implementation of Agenda 21, in the observance of and follow-up to the International Year for the World's Indigenous People (1993) and the International Year of the Family (1994), and in the follow-up to the World Conference on Human Rights, to be held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, and the International Conference on Population and Development, to be held at Cairo from 5 to 13 September 1994, appropriate attention is given to the need for coordinating international action with the process of formulating and carrying out comprehensive national social policies;

"(c) To support the strengthening of social policy measures designed to prevent or mitigate conflict, particularly that associated with interethnic tensions and cultural differentiation of all kinds, as well as to rehabilitate communities and societies already affected by such conflicts;

"(d) To support national efforts to strengthen effective participation of all citizens, an active civil society, and accountable, transparent and efficient government;

"(e) To include within programme activities in 1994 and 1995 national case-studies of experience in the formulation and implementation of comprehensive social policies, especially in countries suffering from severe economic, political, cultural and environmental pressures, and to ensure the wide dissemination of the results of such studies;

> "(f) To undertake on a system-wide basis the analysis of national experience and the widespread dissemination of guidelines and of technical support designed to promote and strengthen national capacities for development of comprehensive social policies as intrinsic parts of societal management strategies;
>
> "(g) To report to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session, through the regular session of the Economic and Social Council in 1994, on the further implementation of the Guiding Principles for Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes in the Near Future, giving special attention to recent national experience in ensuring that social policies are comprehensive and fully integrated in societal management, and including guidelines for achieving greater effectiveness of the necessary institutional arrangements and procedures."

122. At the 14th meeting, on 17 February, statements were made by the representatives of Argentina, the United States of America, Bolivia, Mexico and the Netherlands and the observers for the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Norway.

123. At the 15th meeting, on 17 February, the representative of the Programme Planning and Budget Division made a statement regarding programme budget implications.

124. At the same meeting, the representative of Cameroon orally revised the draft resolution, as follows:

(a) After the second preambular paragraph, a new preambular paragraph was inserted, reading:

> "Recalling further resolution 33/1 of 17 February 1993 of the Commission for Social Development on the World Summit for Social Development";

(b) The third, fourth and fifth preambular paragraphs were deleted;

(c) In operative paragraph 2, the words "conclusions reached and recommendations made in the report" were replaced with the word "results";

(d) In operative paragraph 3, the words "equal to that accorded to policies in other urgent spheres of public responsibility and societal management" were deleted;

(e) Operative paragraphs 4, 5 and 6 were deleted;

(f) Operative paragraph 7 (paragraph 4 of the final text) was replaced by the following text:

> "4. Encourages Governments to enhance all forms of participation at the local and national levels, in order to establish the essential preconditions for creating a context within which individuals, families and communities will be willing and able to respond to the incentives included within public programmes to enhance local capacities for providing social services designed and managed with the full participation of all citizens";

(g) Operative paragraph 8 (paragraph 5 of the final text) was replaced by the following text:

> "5. Requests the Secretary-General:
>
> "(a) To strengthen the capacity of the United Nations to provide the most effective support to Governments in their task of preparing comprehensive national social policies as central elements of their strategies for societal management;
>
> "(b) To ensure appropriate attention to the need for coordinating international action with the process of formulating and carrying out comprehensive national social policies;
>
> "(c) To support, upon the specific request of Member States, national efforts to strengthen effective participation of all citizens in national social policies and programmes;
>
> "(d) To include within programme activities in 1994 and 1995 national case-studies of experience in the formulation and implementation of comprehensive social policies, especially in countries suffering from severe economic, political, cultural and environmental pressures, and to ensure the wide dissemination of the results of such studies;
>
> "(e) To undertake on a system-wide basis the analysis of national experience and the widespread dissemination of guidelines and of technical support designed to promote and strengthen national capacities for development of comprehensive social policies as intrinsic parts of social development;
>
> "(f) To report to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session, through the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1994, on the further implementation of the Guiding Principles for Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes in the Near Future, giving special attention to recent national experience, including guidelines for achieving greater effectiveness".

125. At the same meeting, the representative of Denmark proposed adding the word "high" before the "priority" in operative paragraph 3.

126. At the same meeting, the representative of Argentina proposed a further amendment to operative paragraph 7 (paragraph 4 of the final text), by which the words "designed and managed with the full participation of all citizens" would be deleted.

127. At the same meeting, the representative of the United States of America proposed to amend the chapeau of operative paragraph 8 (paragraph 4 of the final text), by adding the words "within existing resources", and to amend subparagraph 8 (b) (5 (b) of the final text) by replacing the words "To ensure" with the words "To devote".

128. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of China, Chile, Mexico and the Sudan and the observers for Spain, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Norway.

129. Also at the same meeting, following a statement by the Chairman, the Commission decided to transmit the text of the draft resolution, as orally revised and amended, to the Economic and Social Council for its consideration (see chap. I, sect. B, draft decision III).

6. Implementation of the International Plan of Action on Ageing

130. At the 8th meeting, on 12 February, the Chairman of the ad hoc working group on the third review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Plan of Action on Ageing, Mrs. Julia Tavares de Alvarez (Dominican Republic), introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.5/1993/L.5), entitled "Implementation of the International Plan of Action on Ageing", and orally revised it as follows: in operative paragraph 16, the words "conceptual framework of a" were inserted between the words "to draft a" and "programme". 29/

131. At the 12th meeting, on 16 February, the representative of Sweden made a statement.

132. At the 13th meeting, on 16 February, the Secretary of the Commission made a statement.

133. At the same meeting, following statements by the representatives of Sweden and the Dominican Republic, the Commission adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution V).

7. International Year of Older Persons

134. At the 8th meeting, on 12 February, the Chairman of the ad hoc informal working group on the third review and apprisal of the implementation of the International Plan of Action on Ageing, Mrs. Julia Tavares de Alvarez (Dominican Republic), introduced a draft decision (E/CN.5/1993/L.6), entitled "International Year of Older Persons". 30/

135. At the 12th meeting, on 16 February, the Commission adopted the draft decision (see chap. I, sect. B, draft decision II).

29/ Subsequently, the representatives of Argentina, Bolivia, Cameroon, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, France, Germany, Haiti, Madagascar, Malta, Nicaragua, Romania, the Russian Federation, Spain, the Sudan, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America indicated that they would have liked to co-sponsor the draft resolution.

30/ Subsequently, the representatives of Argentina, Bolivia, Cameroon, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, France, Germany, Haiti, Madagascar, Malta, Nicaragua, Romania, the Russian Federation, Spain, the Sudan, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America indicated that they would have liked to co-sponsor the draft resolution.

8. International Year of the Family

136. At the 11th meeting, on 15 February, the representative of Germany, on behalf of Argentina, Australia, 28/ Austria, Belarus, Bolivia, Bulgaria, 28/ Cameroon, Canada, 28/ Chile, China, Colombia, 28/ the Dominican Republic, Germany, Madagascar, Malta, Poland, 28/ the Russian Federation, Slovakia, 28/ Turkey, 28/ Ukraine, the United States of America and Zimbabwe, introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.5/1993/L.8), entitled "International Year of the Family". Subsequently, Costa Rica, 28/ France, Ghana, Haiti, Lebanon, 28/ Nigeria, the Philippines, Romania, 28/ Spain 28/ and the Sudan joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

137. In introducing the draft resolution, the representative of Germany orally revised it as follows:

(a) In operative paragraph 8, the word "recommendations" was replaced by the word "results";

(b) In operative paragraph 17, the word "four" was replaced by the word "two";

(c) In operative paragraph 20 (a), the words "desirability of a declaration" were replaced by the words "desirability to work out a declaration".

138. At the 13th meeting, on 16 February, the Secretary of the Commission made a statement.

139. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Sweden, Germany and Denmark and the observer for Belgium.

140. Also at the same meeting, the Director of the Social Development Division of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs made a statement.

141. At the 14th meeting, on 17 February, the Secretary of the Commission read out the following revision to the draft resolution: after the second preambular paragraph, a new preambular paragraph was inserted, reading:

> "Convinced that equality between the sexes, women's equal participation in employment and shared parental responsibility are essential elements of modern family policy".

142. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Denmark, the Netherlands, Germany, the Dominican Republic, the United States of America, the Russian Federation, the Sudan, Bolivia, Austria, Argentina, Ghana, Belarus, Haiti, Malta, the Philippines, France, China, Cameroon, Nigeria and the Islamic Republic of Iran and the observers for Belgium, Canada, Spain, Finland, Tunisia, Turkey, Lebanon and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

143. A few representatives voiced reservations about the utility of proclaiming an International Day of Families. A number of other representatives supported the idea of the Day and called for the retention of paragraph 15 of the draft resolution.

144. At the same meeting, the Director of the Social Development Division of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs made a statement.

145. Also at the same meeting, following a statement by the Chairman, the Commission adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution VI).

9. Tenth anniversary of International Youth Year and draft world programme of action for youth towards the year 2000 and beyond

146. At the 11th meeting, on 15 February, the Chairman of the ad hoc open-ended working group on youth, Mr. Ahmed Abdel-Halim (Sudan), introduced amendments (E/CN.5/1993/L.11) to the draft calendar of activities and the draft world programme of action contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the draft calendar of activities to mark the tenth anniversary of the International Youth Year and the draft world programme of action for youth towards the year 2000 and beyond (E/CN.5/1993/10).

147. At the 12th meeting, on 16 February, the Chairman of the ad hoc open-ended working group on youth introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.5/1993/L.13), entitled "Tenth anniversary of International Youth Year and draft world programme of action for youth towards the year 2000 and beyond".

148. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the United States of America and Nigeria and the observers for the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Spain. A statement was also made by the Chairman of the open-ended working group on youth.

149. At the 13th meeting, on 16 February, the Commission approved the amendments to the draft calendar of activities and the draft world programme of action (E/CN.5/1993/L.11).

150. At the 14th meeting, on 17 February, the Secretary of the Commission read out the following revisions to the draft resolution:

(a) In operative paragraph 9, the words "in the form of both regular and" were replaced by the words "through the redeployment of existing resources, as well as through";

(b) In operative paragraph 10, the words "an ad hoc informal open-ended" were inserted before the words "working group on youth".

151. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution VII).

152. After the draft resolution was adopted, statements were made by the representatives of Germany and Argentina and the observer for Japan.

Chapter IV

PRIORITY SUBJECT: SOCIAL CONSEQUENCES OF POPULATION GROWTH AND CHANGING SOCIAL CONDITIONS, WITH PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON THE FAMILY

153. The Commission considered item 5 of its agenda at its 9th meeting, on 12 February 1993. It had before it the report of the Expert Group Meeting on the Social Consequences of Population Growth and Changing Social Conditions, with Particular Emphasis on the Family (E/CN.5/1993/6).

154. The Director of the Social Development Division of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs introduced the report of the Expert Group Meeting, which was held at Vienna from 21 to 25 September 1992. Noting that this priority subject was an extremely relevant and also an extremely complex topic, the Director explained that the task of the Secretariat in preparing for the examination of this priority issue by the Commission had been greatly facilitated by the generous support provided by the Government of Germany, which had contributed the bulk of the financial resources needed. The United Nations Population Fund had also made a contribution, while the Population Division had assisted in the substantive preparations.

155. The Director recalled that the relationship between social change and demographic change was extremely complex, strongly influenced by numerous feedback and multiplier effects and characterized by powerful forces of inertia. The task of designing effective policies had been found to be an extremely difficult one. The complexity of the factors that individuals considered to be of significance to their decision-making often defied policy intervention, even in developed countries where the majority of citizens were in a position to modify those aspects of their behaviour that had demographic significance.

156. The experts invited to participate in the Expert Group Meeting had largely succeeded in cutting through the complexities of those issues, and had arrived at a coherent set of conclusions and recommendations. They emphasized the relevance of the condition of the family, and of other types of kinship-based support systems, to demographic trends and conditions, noting that individuals developed aspirations and perceptions, identified goals and made decisions largely in a context that was established by their functions, their rights and their responsibilities as members of families.

157. Innovative approaches to the provision of appropriate forms of social security and social assistance might be among the most cost-effective means to achieve that degree of individual confidence in their own future economic and social security and that of their dependants which alone persuaded individuals that the risks associated with adjusting their traditional fertility behaviour could be taken in the knowledge that their future economic and social security would be assured.

158. The experts noted the extremely serious condition of populations that were in some way distinct in their ethnicity or culture from other sections of national societies. The worst conditions were those experienced by indigenous peoples. Special measures would be required to improve their situation, which

was of demographic significance in countries where they constituted significant minorities, and particularly where they constituted the majority.

159. One representative of a developed country, speaking on behalf of a regional group, stated that the point of departure in a discussion on population policy must be that sustainable economic and social development in many countries simply was not possible if population growth was not significantly reduced. While better social conditions enhanced a demographic transition towards a more sustainable development, including improved social conditions, it could with equal justification be claimed that reduced population growth was a means to obtain better social conditions. This interrelationship was very clear with respect to education and health, where improvements contributed to change in demographically significant behaviour, but were themselves affected by excessive rates of population growth.

160. It was important that the obvious sensitivities involved in any policies attempting to deal with so complex an issue should be seen from a constructive perspective: they should form part of the solution, and not only be considered to be a part of the problem. A responsible population policy was not, as was sometimes falsely construed, an infringement of people's rights and an intervention in their private lives. On the contrary, it was intended to provide people with a choice which affected themselves as well as others, and affected their own as well as future generations. That choice must be a free one, without any form of coercion. The task of the policy maker was not to dictate to people their future, neither by action nor by passivity. Rather it was to provide them with a proper basis on which they could decide their own future, and subsequently to assist them in implementing their decisions. In that regard, a basic ingredient must be the provision of information on both possibilities and consequences. An understanding of the interaction between population growth and social conditions provided a foundation for being able to make the right choice. Because a large number of interrelated factors were involved in all processes of development, of which population growth was only one, even though always important and in some cases of paramount importance, it was necessary to be aware of the complexities involved, and particularly of the impact that specific efforts might have on other parts of the developmental efforts. Such awareness would help to avoid solving one problem by creating another. Full information and better understanding must then be supported by the availability of good quality family-planning services.

161. The significance of the report of the Expert Group Meeting was not so much that it provided new ideas, but that it pointed to aspects that had received too little attention, such as the central importance, sometimes still neglected, of the role of women in development; the fact that better social conditions would promote the demographic transition; and the need to deal with the effects of a reduced reliance on the extended family system, for a significant decline in fertility took place only when individual economic and social security could be ensured by means other than that of maintaining a large family support system.

162. Another representative observed that, for his country and for many others in Europe and North America, although faced by demographic problems arising from an unexpected and dramatic decline in fertility, one of the most disquieting dimensions of the population issue was the migratory pressure they

experienced as a result of the existing economic and social disparities between North and South. Consequently, sufficient resources had to be devoted to population programmes in the developing countries. The interdependent nature of the modern world, he said, necessitated international cooperation and solidarity among different regions in order to find adequate solutions for the problems of population growth.

163. Another representative noted that migration engendered by the unequal distribution of national economic resources, by the lack of social security systems, and by armed conflicts was assuming proportions that threatened to overwhelm the absorptive capacity of the countries in which migrants were seeking refuge. He stated that the industrialized countries were increasingly recognizing that immigration and emigration policies could not constitute a sufficient control mechanism in respect of the evolution of the world's population. Appropriate family policy was an essential instrument in any attempt to resolve population problems. It was necessary to create conditions that would permit families to have the number of children they desired in conditions consonant with human dignity. To establish a family and to decide upon the number of children were basic human rights, the full realization of which was still far from achievement not only in developing regions but also in developed regions. However, the situation of families was not currently favourable to successful policy interventions.

164. Family policy must be an independent policy area: it should contribute to overcoming the differences that existed between non-remunerated activities within the family and remunerated professional activity outside it; it must promote partnership between men and women; it should ensure that measures adopted had a concrete and beneficial impact on the daily life of families; and it should ensure that families benefit from social justice, for to have children should not lead to their social isolation, nor should persons who decided not to have children benefit from privileges greater than those received by persons who decided to have children.

165. The representative of a country in process of transformation to a market economy stressed the importance of the recommendations of the Expert Group. They were of direct relevance to her country's current societal conditions, affected by complex political, economic and social changes, as well as a major human-made disaster. Extremely unfavourable conditions, including severe strains upon the family, had continued to have an impact upon the demographic situation, further reducing fertility but tending to increase mortality. The recommendations provided invaluable pointers for further policy development during the period of economic transformation. In the light of the Guiding Principles for Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes in the Near Future, and in close collaboration with external governmental and non-governmental specialist organizations and bodies, including the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, her Government was taking innovative approaches to social development, including devolution of responsibility to local authorities charged with providing full individual and long-term support to the least advantaged sections of the population.

166. One representative noted that the experts had emphasized the need, in order to complete the demographic transition, to help impoverished families out of poverty. In his country, a task force on economic development of poverty-stricken areas, particularly least developed rural areas, had been established. The measures it had taken had been described by the World Bank as having had "outstanding results", and it was intended to succeed in lifting all remaining impoverished households out of poverty by 1995.

167. A representative of a least developed country, who gave as an example of the serious consequences of extreme demographic pressure the situation in his own country, reiterated the view that it was more than ever necessary to formulate population policies based upon mature consideration, in the light of scientific study, of the practical measures most appropriate.

168. Most representatives considered that the precise conclusions and recommendations of the Expert Group Meeting constituted important contributions to the World Conference on Human Rights, the International Year of the Family, the International Conference on Population and Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace, and the World Summit for Social Development.

169. The representative of the United Nations Population Fund drew the attention of the Commission in particular to those recommendations of the Expert Group Meeting that stressed the importance of strengthening family-planning programmes, enhancing the status of women and harmonizing family policies with those dealing with population. Those and other recommendations were timely and pertinent above all to preparations for the major events that would take place during the next two years.

Chapter V

PROGRAMME QUESTIONS AND OTHER MATTERS

170. The Commission considered item 6 of its agenda at its 11th meeting, on 15 February 1993. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (E/CN.5/1993/8 and Corr.1);

(b) Note by the Secretary-General on the nomination of members of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (E/CN.5/1993/9);

(c) Note by the Secretariat on the proposed programme of work for the biennium 1992-1993 and the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 (E/CN.5/1993/CRP.1);

(d) Note by the Secretariat on draft elements of an evaluation questionnaire (E/CN.5/1993/CRP.2);

(e) Letter dated 8 February 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Commission for Social Development, transmitting an aide-mémoire submitted by the Government of Austria concerning the question of restructuring units of the United Nations Secretariat in the economic, social and related fields (E/CN.5/1993/CRP.3).

171. In introducing the report of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (E/CN.5/1993/8), the Director of the Institute outlined the principal features of the Institute as an international centre of research, and highlighted its activities during the biennium 1991-1992 and the role the Institute intended to play in the preparatory process for the World Summit for Social Development.

172. The Institute was an autonomous multidisciplinary research centre promoting an integrated approach to the analysis of social problems. It carried out its work through a global network of scholars and research institutions and in close cooperation with the United Nations Secretariat, specialized agencies and other interested bodies. Because of its small size, autonomous status and cooperation with other organizations, the Institute was able to work in a flexible and cost-effective manner.

173. The biennium 1991-1992 saw a marked expansion in the research programme of the Institute. Research under 11 programme areas was conducted in 67 countries. The major projects included the environment, sustainable development and social change; crisis, adjustment and social change; participation and changes in property relations in communist and post-communist societies; ethnic conflict and development; political violence and social movements; refugees, returnees and local society; socio-economic and political impact of production, trade and use of illicit narcotic drugs; and social and development indicators.

174. Several programmes were nearing completion, and there had been a significant increase in the number of publications. To promote dissemination of research findings and dialogue among policy makers, researchers and practitioners, the Institute organized 16 workshops and conferences at the national, regional and international levels. Thirteen books and 19 discussion papers were published and a major effort was made to enhance the impact of the publications.

175. In 1993 the Institute would celebrate its thirtieth anniversary. A commemorative brochure would be issued and an anniversary seminar would be organized in July 1993 to discuss critical social policy issues. The Institute intended to play an active role in the preparatory process for the World Summit for Social Development. There were plans to produce short reports synthesizing the results of its research programmes in relevant areas, to publish a report on social integration and national cohesion, and to organize a number of seminars to provide an opportunity to policy makers, researchers, international agencies, the donor community and non-governmental social and development organizations to debate and discuss selected issues relating to the agenda of the World Summit. The Director of the Institute appealed to Member States to make financial contributions to the Institute to enable it to play an effective role in the preparatory process for the Summit.

176. A representative complimented the Institute on the high quality of its work, especially in the project on the socio-economic impact of production, use and trade in narcotic drugs, and expressed the view that the results of that research should be taken into account in the preparation of the next report on the world social situation.

177. The representative of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat introduced the conference room paper containing draft questions for an in-depth evaluation of the major programme on social development and humanitarian affairs covering the period 1984-1991, currently undertaken by the Central Evaluation Unit of the Secretariat. Commission members were invited to comment on the draft questions during the current debate or in writing by the end of March 1993. The questionnaire would be finalized in the light of comments received and circulated to members of the Commission and non-governmental organizations that had attended at least one of its last three sessions.

178. Concerning the proposed programme of work for the biennium 1994-1995 in the field of social development, the representative of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs noted that it had been drafted within the framework of programme 25 (Global social issues and policies) and programme 26 (Integration of social groups) of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, 31/ as revised by the General Assembly in its resolution 47/214 of 23 December 1992. The proposal was tentative since it had not yet been reviewed by the Programme Planning and Budgeting Board and was subject to change in the light of the central review of the Board and the decisions of the Secretary-General on the proposed programme budget as a whole. He also

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31/ To be issued as Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/47/6).

brought to the attention of the Commission information received from the Department of Administration and Management regarding possible implications of new economic and social structures being introduced in the second phase of the reorganization of the Secretariat, discussed in a note by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session (A/47/753).

179. Many representatives addressed the issue of the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the Secretariat, since that would have major implications for the work of the Organization in the social field and of the Commission. Several commended the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs for the valuable work that it had been carrying out, in spite of its scarce resources. Some recalled that previous sessions of the United Nations General Assembly had recommended that the Centre at Vienna be further strengthened as a nucleus for all issues and reports relating to social policy and social development. Some referred to the particular relevance of the work of the Centre to economies in transition; representatives noted the relevance of its work to all regions. The importance that several Governments attach to a strong, independent unit at Vienna dealing with social issues was emphasized. Serious concern was also expressed that the incorporation of the Centre into a larger organizational structure at Headquarters could result in the overshadowing of social issues in the broader development agenda.

180. Great concern was expressed about the possible effects of a transfer of the Centre from Vienna to New York on the preparations for and follow-up to a number of forthcoming international events, the World Summit for Social Development in particular. It was emphasized that a decision on the Centre should follow rather than precede the Summit. Several representatives raised questions about the budgetary implications of moving the Centre from Vienna to New York in the light of the many demands already placed on the finances of the Organization.

181. Several representatives, while supporting the Secretary-General's current efforts of reform and streamlining, expressed great concern about the apparent lack of transparency in the way in which restructuring decisions were being made. The view was expressed that the current distribution of work in the social field functioned well, and that a further strengthening of Secretariat activities in the social sector in Europe was required in view of the present situation in Europe.

182. Great concern was expressed by a number of delegations about tendencies of concentrating United Nations activities at Headquarters, stressing the importance of the principles of decentralization of United Nations activities and of the distribution of work within the United Nations.

183. One representative expressed the view that discussion of the issue was premature since the relevant facts were not yet available, and it would be taken up by the General Assembly at its resumed forty-seventh session, scheduled for 8 to 19 March 1993.

Action taken by the Commission

1. United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

184. At the 14th meeting, on 17 February, the representative of Denmark introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.5/1993/L.15) entitled "United Nations Research Institute for Social Development". Subsequently, Lebanon 28/ and the Sudan joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

185. At the 15th meeting, on 17 February, the Secretary of the Commission read out a revision to operative paragraph 3 of the draft resolution, by which the words "within existing resources" would be added after the words "to provide" and the word "other" before the words "administrative services" would be deleted.

186. At the same meeting, following statements by the representative of the Sudan and the observers for Switzerland and Lebanon, the Commission adopted the draft resolution as orally revised (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution VIII).

2. Nomination of members of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

187. At the 14th meeting, on 17 February, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Commission decided to nominate, for confirmation by the Economic and Social Council, the following candidates for membership in the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development for an additional term of two years, beginning on 1 July 1993: Lars Anell (Sweden), Ingrid Eide (Norway), Tatyana Koryagina (Russian Federation), Maureen O'Neil (Canada) and Akilagpa Sawyerr (Ghana) (see chap. I, sect. C, decision 33/101).

3. Programme questions

188. At the 15th meeting, on 17 February, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Commission took note of the proposed programme of work for the biennium 1992-1993 and the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 (E/CN.5/1993/CRP.1) and the note by the Secretary-General on the nomination of members of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (E/CN.5/1993/9) (see chap. I, sect. D, decision 33/102).

Chapter VI

REVIEW OF THE WORLD SOCIAL SITUATION

189. The Commission considered item 7 of its agenda at its 1st to 3rd and 9th meetings, on 8, 9 and 12 February 1993. It had before it the following documents:

(a) 1993 Report on the World Social Situation (E/1993/50);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Declaration on Social Progress and Development (E/1993/50/Add.1);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the critical social situation in Africa (E/CN.5/1993/11).

190. The representative of the Department of Economic and Social Development presented the 1993 Report on the World Social Situation (E/1993/50) and its addendum on the implementation of the Declaration on Social Progress and Development (E/1993/50/Add.1). He apologized to the Commission for the delay in the issue of the documents and explained the reasons therefor. He also drew the attention of the Commission to the breadth and speed of social changes in recent years and the fundamental nature of some of the changes. The World Summit for Social Development, to be held in 1995, was a response to issues that had emerged in those processes of change and the right opportunity to seek answers and solutions to the major problems of social development.

191. The main indicators of social progress and standards of living and the main causes and circumstances that explained changes in the indicators were analysed in part one of the Report. Some major issues and dilemmas formed the contents of part two. The addendum contained a brief review of the efforts of Member States and the international community as a whole to achieve the goals of the Declaration on Social Progress and Development.

192. The Report highlighted achievements, setbacks and problems in the field of social development. One of its main highlights was the growing disparity between levels of income in the least developed countries, mostly in Africa, and the developed countries. Countries in the region of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean also lost significantly in relation to other economies. Economies in Asia, although growing at robust rates, still contained the vast majority of the world's poor.

193. Poverty world wide remained the economic and social problem of the highest priority. The major cause of long-term poverty was unemployment and low-productivity employment. The creation of employment required both human resources development and investment in physical capital, the more so in a period of rapid technological change, as was currently the case. Hence, the importance of adequate nutrition, sanitation, health care and education, on the one hand, and high investment ratios on the other. Programmes for economic stabilization and structural adjustment worsened, at least in the short term, conditions of employment and poverty by reducing investment, thereby also undermining prospects of future development. Domestic policies needed to address the problems of inequality and poverty directly, and should

not expect them to be by-products of other processes of development. The elimination of inflation, unrealistic prices and structural malformations had contributed to making developing economies more flexible and capable of eventually sustained economic growth.

194. International economic conditions during most of the 1980s were not conducive to the rapid development of many developing countries. The fall in the prices of primary commodities and net transfers of financial resources to the rest of the world (until 1989) hampered the growth of developing countries in several ways. A more liberal international trade regime would have been conducive to faster and more equitable growth.

195. The representative of the Department of Economic and Social Development, in introducing the addendum on the implementation of the Declaration on Social Progress and Development, stated that during the four years since the publication of the 1989 Report on the World Social Situation, 32/ there had been many significant changes which affected the ways and means of achieving the goals and objectives contained in the Declaration. Many goals, including those of eradicating poverty and reducing hunger and unemployment, had yet to be achieved.

196. It was noted that only 13 Member States had responded to the note verbale of the Secretary-General requesting them to provide information for preparing the addendum. Such a low response rate raised the question whether there existed sufficient interest among Member States to continue producing that particular report in the future.

197. The Commission deplored the delay in the issue of the 1993 Report on the World Social Situation and urged the Secretariat to comply fully with Council resolution 1985/20 and Commission for Social Development resolution 31/3 on the timely distribution of conference documents. It was essential that future issues reach the delegations early enough to allow them to study the wide-ranging issues and make useful comments. The voluminous nature of the Report had made that requirement imperative.

198. One delegation noted that the review of the world social situation provided an appropriate opportunity for discussing social development issues from a broader, more comprehensive, perspective with a view to formulating strategies for strengthening international cooperation in that field, and that consequently, the Commission's capacity to perform that task must be reinforced by reviewing its working methods.

199. Several representatives commented on the world social situation in general. Insecurity and social unrest had increased throughout the world. Social progress and improvements in the quality of life required dynamic economic development, a more equitable distribution of income and resources, and ecologically sound approaches to development. Human needs should be the central focus of development. Given growing global interdependence, developing and developed countries and economies in transition all stood to benefit from learning about one another's socio-economic systems, social

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32/ 1989 Report on the World Social Situation (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.89.IV.1).

innovations, community-building efforts and the implementation of effective social service policies.

200. Long-standing problems of poverty, recent economic setbacks and stagnation, compounded by historical economic realities that perpetuated inequalities between rich and poor countries, contributed to the deterioration in the social situation and standards of living in developing countries. Immigration by people seeking to better their lives also presented a social problem of major significance.

201. Over 1 billion persons lived in absolute poverty, with malnutrition, poor health care and low levels of literacy preventing them from improving their lot. In Africa and Latin America, stabilization and structural adjustment programmes had further eroded the social situation of much of the population, and in many least developed countries social conditions had reached crisis proportions. While overseas development assistance had helped significantly in areas such as child immunization, health care and literacy, aid fatigue had become evident and was an issue of major concern to many developing countries.

202. The economies in transition were beset by a host of new challenges and problems. Unemployment and poverty were growing, inflation had ravaged the purchasing power of wages and pensions, and in some countries refugees from neighbouring lands posed problems of assimilation. Social protection systems in those economies had to be restructured and more effectively targeted to meet the needs of the most vulnerable groups of society.

203. Although conditions in developed countries were not as severe as elsewhere in the world, it was noted that relative poverty and unemployment levels also remained high in those countries. With changes in cultural and social norms, the social fabric was strained, crime was growing, social intolerance and alienation were spreading, and there was a lack of confidence in public institutions. Higher levels of drug addiction, homelessness and suicide were symptomatic of those problems and of the erosion of the family as a social unit. Some welfare policies had contributed in various countries to non-participation in the labour force and to a reduced sense of responsibility among some sectors of the population. Recently, ideals of social protection provided by social security policies had come under threat by the financial unsustainability of current programmes.

204. The Commission noted the plight of peoples in various parts of the world caught in the crossfire of political factions seeking to resolve conflicts by violent means. Human rights and fundamental freedoms were being flagrantly violated, resulting in millions living as displaced persons in their own countries or as refugees in other countries. Such forced migration had been damaging to social structures in both recipient countries and countries of origin, and fostered in immigrants a sense of being condemned to a second-class status in receiving countries.

205. The Commission appreciated in general the comprehensive and informative nature of the 1993 Report on the World Social Situation. The voluminous statistical information was welcomed. The Report contained material that would be useful in the preparations for the World Summit for Social Development. However, it also had several weaknesses and shortcomings. Some speakers noted that the linkages between economic and social conditions had

not been sufficiently analysed. A few were of the view that economies in transition received disproportionate attention compared to developing countries, which were also experiencing substantial social hardship as a result of structural adjustment policies. The Report should also have given adequate consideration to issues of international cooperation for social development. Several representatives objected to issues of a political nature in the Report, such as the sections on "good governance" and "religious fundamentalism", on which perspectives differed. Some representatives, moreover, considered that a better synthesis of the findings and major conclusions of the chapters would have been useful. One speaker wished to see the main recommendations put together in a concluding chapter of the Report. A few noted that additional chapters on ethnic cleansing, racism, violence and terrorism should have been included.

206. A number of speakers pointed out some inaccuracies in the Report. It was noted that internally displaced victims of natural disasters had been erroneously labelled as refugees. There were also critical remarks about insufficient refinement in the statistical data, which also needed to be brought up to date. One delegation expressed its Government's displeasure at the content of the fourth, fifth and sixth paragraphs of section B.1 of chapter XV. It requested that the content of those paragraphs be amended to reflect accurately the situation and achievements of its country in the war against illicit drug trafficking.

207. Two paragraphs in the Report received pointed criticism from a number of representatives. Three took strong exception to the third paragraph from the end of section B of chapter X, considering the observations contained in that paragraph overly negative and ill-informed judgements on issues of "good governance" in some of the rapidly growing economies of Asia. One representative noted that there was room for improvement in the terminology used. Six representatives expressed strong reservations regarding the first paragraph of section B of chapter XII, containing comments on religious fundamentalism. One representative, while criticizing the entire section, rejected the information in the Report concerning the existence of conflict among factions of Muslims in his country as totally baseless.

208. One delegation expressed its Government's displeasure with the contents of the fourth paragraph of section E of chapter XII. It requested that the contents be modified to present accurately the reality of the situation in its country or delete the reference to its country in the said paragraph.

209. The representative of the Secretariat took note of the objections raised formally and informally during the course of the deliberations, and offered to seek deletions and adequate changes in the Report, taking account of the views of Member States and in consultation with senior members of his Department. He stated, however, that such adjustments had to be consonant with maintaining the integrity of the Report as a document emanating from the Secretariat.

210. Several representatives referred to the report of the Secretary-General on the critical social situation in Africa (E/CN.5/1993/11). In discussing the difficult economic and social conditions that continued to prevail in sub-Saharan Africa, those representatives drew on the contents of the report to illustrate and substantiate many of their remarks.

Chapter VII

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE THIRTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

211. The Commission considered item 8 of its agenda at the 15th meeting, on 17 February 1993. It had before it a note by the Secretariat containing the draft provisional agenda for the thirty-fourth session, together with a list of requested documentation (E/CN.5/1993/L.17).

212. At the same meeting, following statements by the representatives of France, the United States of America, Argentina, the Sudan, the Dominican Republic and China and the observers for Norway and Japan, the Commission, upon the proposal of the Chairman, decided to combine items 5 and 6 of the provisional agenda as follows:

> "5. Priority subject: World Summit for Social Development
>
> Under this item, the Commission will consider, if requested, preparations for the Summit and the follow-up, including options for revitalizing its work in the light of the Summit";

and to renumber the subsequent items of the provisional agenda.

213. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the provisional agenda for its thirty-fourth session, as orally revised (see chap. I, sect. B, draft decision I).

Chapter VIII

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON ITS THIRTY-THIRD SESSION

214. At the 15th meeting, on 17 February, the Commission adopted the report on its thirty-third session (E/CN.5/1993/L.12 and Add.1-6), as revised and amended during the discussion.

Chapter IX

ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION

A. Opening and duration of the session

215. The Commission for Social Development held its thirty-third session at Vienna from 8 to 17 February 1993. The Commission held 15 meetings (1st to 15th) and a number of informal meetings.

216. The session was opened by Elsie N. Mbella-Ngomba (Cameroon), Chairman of the thirty-second session of the Commission. She said that in the two years since the previous session of the Commission, in spite of positive tendencies, the belligerent nature of humankind had not completely changed. Evidence could be seen in the growing number of United Nations peace-keeping operations that were required in so many countries. The economic crisis situation in the developing world, and especially in Africa, continued. As a result, democracy was in danger of being equated with poverty. She stressed that the quest for social integration had become more imperative.

217. The newly elected Chairman, Juan Carlos Beltramino (Argentina), expressed full confidence that the Commission would set an example for real progress by proceeding with openness, realism and appreciation for the responsibility it had to Governments, to the United Nations and to the people of the world. Humanity was confronted by social problems of great magnitude and complexity, in particular poverty, unemployment, injustice, inequality and social insecurity, many of which had worsened in recent years. At the same time, rapid social change was bringing new difficulties, which sometimes appeared overwhelming, such as population growth, increasing numbers of migrants and refugees, and economic recession. Given the scale of the problems, the implementation of social policies and programmes and the level of international support for national efforts often appeared insufficient. Although awareness had been raised for social issues, and much information had been generated, concrete solutions were often lacking, not least because of inadequate resources.

218. Regarding the work of the Commission, the Chairman expressed concern that a complex and busy schedule could hinder progress. He urged participants to avoid unnecessary repetition, and to seek instead substantive and innovative solutions to long-standing problems.

219. The Director-General of the United Nations Office at Vienna said that during the past few years the rapid succession of events and the pace of change in the political sphere had been truly bewildering. So much had happened since the Commission last met that it was hard to believe that the previous session had occurred just two years earlier. Those years were remarkable also because they had witnessed wide swings in the public mood, from great expectations to cold reality. Undoubtedly, much that was positive had happened, but social disintegration and mounting economic problems were everywhere to be seen.

220. The United Nations was undergoing an extraordinary period of change to meet the new tasks it would be increasingly called upon to undertake in the twenty-first century. Within the Secretariat, the Secretary-General had already implemented some structural changes and proposed others; within the intergovernmental bodies, Member States were also considering a range of reforms. A key element of the proposal recently put forward by the Secretary-General for revitalizing the Secretariat was the establishment of a coherent structure for dealing in an integrated manner with economic, social and environmental questions, built around three newly formed departments at United Nations Headquarters in New York.

221. The Director-General underlined several key points of the agenda that would guide the deliberations of the Commission, an agenda which was indeed extremely crowded: a major review of the world social situation, with the Report on the World Social Situation of the Secretary-General as an important background document; the preparations for the International Year of the Family; the finalization of the text of the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities and the contribution to the elaboration of a long-term strategy to further the implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons beyond the Decade; and the two in-session working groups, to contribute to a world youth programme of action towards the year 2000 and beyond, and to undertake the third review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Plan of Action on Ageing.

222. Recalling that it was from discussions in the Commission that the seed had been sown which had matured into the idea of the World Summit for Social Development, the Director-General emphasized that the Commission had a great opportunity, and indeed a major responsibility, to mobilize its expertise and experience in support of preparations for the Summit. The timing of the decision to convene the Summit provided a very appropriate opportunity to ensure high political visibility for social issues in New York and to confirm the place that social concerns deserved in the new, integrated Secretariat arrangements.

B. Attendance

223. In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1147 (XLI) of 4 August 1966, the Commission is composed of 32 States Members of the United Nations, elected on the principle of equitable geographical distribution.

224. The session was attended by 32 States members of the Commission. Observers for other States Members of the United Nations and for non-member States and representatives of specialized agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations also attended. A list of participants is given in annex I to the present report.

C. Election of officers

225. At its 1st meeting, on 8 February, the Commission elected the following officers by acclamation:

Chairman:	Juan Carlos Beltramino (Argentina)
Vice-Chairmen:	George Anastassiades (Cyprus) Koos Richelle (Netherlands) Ahmed Abdel-Halim (Sudan)
Rapporteur:	Anatoly Ossadtchikh (Russian Federation)

D. Agenda

226. At its 1st meeting, on 8 February, the Commission adopted the provisional agenda contained in document E/CN.5/1993/1, with the understanding that agenda items 3 and 7 would be interchanged (see annex II to the present report).

E. Organization of work

227. At the same meeting, the Commission approved the organization of the work of the session, as orally revised (see E/CN.5/1993/L.1).

228. At its 2nd meeting, on 8 February, the Commission decided to appoint Elsie Mbella-Ngomba (Cameroon) as Chairman of the informal working group on disability; Julia Tavares de Alvarez (Dominican Republic) as Chairman of the open-ended ad hoc working group on ageing; Vice-Chairman Koos Richelle (Netherlands) as Chairman of the Committee of the Whole on the World Summit for Social Development; and Vice-Chairman Ahmed Abdel-Halim (Sudan) as Chairman of the open-ended ad hoc working group on youth issues.

F. Documentation

229. The documents before the Commission at its thirty-third session are listed in annex III to the present report.

G. Consultations with non-governmental organizations

230. In accordance with rule 76 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council (E/5975/Rev.1), representatives of the following non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council made statements:

Under agenda item 3:

Category I: International Confederation of Free Trade Unions

Under agenda item 4:

Category I: International Confederation of Free Trade Unions

Category II: Baha'i International Community
Foundation for the Rights of the Family
International Catholic Child Bureau
International Federation for Home Economics
New Humanity
World Leisure and Recreation Association

231. Written statements submitted by non-governmental organizations are listed in annex III to the present report.

Annex I

ATTENDANCE

Members

Argentina: Jorge A. Taiana, Juan Carlos Beltramino, Silvia E. Mira, Eduardo M. Blanchet, Mónica S. Fasson, Silvia Farail de Gentile

Austria: Richard Wotava, Johann Unger, Ewald Jäger, Birgit Stimmer, Franziska Friessnigg, Renate Dorfmeister, Brigitte Brenner

Belarus: Evgueni Zhukovitch, Elena Sivolobova, Vladimir Korolev, Vladimir Skvortsov

Bolivia: Carlos Rosso Orozco, Bárbara Canedo Patiño, Alvaro Del Pozo Carafa, Isabel Dalenz de Vidaurre

Cameroon: Elsie Mbella-Ngomba

Chile: Alvaro García Hurtado, Hernán Gutiérrez Leyton, Cristián Maquieira Astaburuaga, Marcelo Aguierre Dumay, Roberto Alvarez Henríquez

China: Chen Shiqiu, Qin Xiaomei, Du Qiwen, Huang Yongan, Wang Chuanbin, Ding Qiwen, Chen Ci, Liu Zhixian, Su Guo, Xiao Caiwei, Wei Mengxin

Côte d'Ivoire: Jules Achi Ahouzi, Malan Kassi

Cyprus: George Anastassiades

Denmark: Ole Lonsmann Poulsen, Ole Jorgensen, Ib John Kelland, Vibeke Rovsing Jorgensen

Dominican Republic: Julia Tavares de Alvarez

France: Marcel Tremeau, Claude Fonrojet, Olivier Maitland Pelen, Valérie Sanders, Marc Plum, Danielle Refuveille, Eliane Rinaldo

Germany: Dieter Schaad, Claus-A. Lutz, Karl Jung, Alfred Protz, Werner Sasdrich, Volker Berger, Marion Thielenhaus, Wolfgang Becker, Wolfgang Wiethoff, Gerda Buchalla, Gisela-Zerelda Kehrhahn, Sabine Richard

Ghana: Kofi Adu, Morgan Brown

Guinea: Oumou Hann

Haiti: Nicole Romulus, Carole Sambale Tannert

Indonesia: J. P. Louhanapessy, Wijono Martosudarmo, Ghaffar Fadyl, Indratno Siswoyo, T. Andradjati, I Gusti A. Wesaka Puja

Iran (Islamic Republic of): Seyed Mojtaba Arastou, Mehdi Mir Afzal, Masoud Nili

Madagascar: Ramandimbisoa Tombo

Malta: Alfred Zammit Montebello, Joseph Cassar, Victor Pace, Charles Vella

Mexico: Claude Heller, Fernando Peón Escalante, Porfirio Thierry Muñoz Ledo, Julián Ventura Valero

Netherlands: Koos Richelle, Enrik C. H. A. Plug, Hendrik-Jan Regeur, Emil Samuels, Marianne Aalders, Gerard van Rienen, Margriet Landman

Nigeria: Mclean Igonikon Omuso, A. A. Akomah, B. A. Bamisaiye

Pakistan: Muhammad Alam Baloch

Philippines: Linglingay F. Lacanlale

Russian Federation: Ella Pamfilova, Yuri Zaitsev, Anatoly Ossadtchikh, Mikhail Beliakov, Andrei Panov, Boris Avramenko, Lev Jakushev, Juri Detistov, Marina Korunova

Sudan: Ahmed Abdel-Halim, Abdalla M. A. Wadi

Sweden: Carl-Anders Ifvarsson, Anita Gradin, Ethel Wiklund, Bertil Mathsson, Eva Sandborg

Ukraine: Arnold M. Shlepakov, Sergiy K. Prodan

United States of America: Jane E. Becker, Thomas G. Martin, David E. Hohman, John A. Gannon, Robert T. Anthony, Crayon C. Efird, Richard W. Hoover, Daniel F. Keller, Eric E. Svendsen

Yugoslavia: Svetlana Arsenić, Ljubica Srdić, Jelisaveta Djuričković-Tuvić

Zimbabwe: C. M. B. Utete, C. Nzenza, C. Piloto

States Members of the United Nations represented by Observers

Algeria, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czech Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Finland, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, India, Iraq, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Morocco, Nicaragua, Norway, Oman, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen

Non-member States represented by observers

Holy See, Switzerland

United Nations Secretariat

Department of Economic and Social Development, Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs (United Nations Office at Vienna), Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

United Nations bodies

United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Population Fund, United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

Specialized agency

International Labour Organisation

Intergovernmental organization represented by an observer

European Economic Community

Other organization represented by an observer

Palestine

Non-governmental organizations

Category I: International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, International Cooperative Alliance, International Council of Voluntary Agencies, International Council of Women, International Council on Social Welfare, International Federation of Business and Professional Women, Soroptimist International, World Veterans Federation, Zonta International

Category II: American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), Caritas Internationalis, Disabled People's International, Foundation for the Rights of the Family (PRODEFA), International Catholic Child Bureau, International Federation for Home Economics, International Federation of Disabled Workers and Civilian Handicapped, International Federation of Social Workers, International Federation of University Women, International League of Societies for Persons with Mental Handicap, New Humanity, Pax Romana (International Catholic Movement for Intellectual and Cultural Affairs) (International Movement of Catholic Students), World Association of Girl Guides and Girl

Scouts, World Blind Union, World Federation of the Deaf, World Federation of Methodist Women, World Leisure and Recreation Association, World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations

Institute

International Institute for Ageing

Annex II

AGENDA OF THE THIRTY-THIRD SESSION

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

3. World Summit for Social Development.

4. Monitoring of international plans and programmes of action.

5. Priority subject:

   Social consequences of population growth and changing social conditions, with particular emphasis on the family.

6. Programme questions and other matters:

   (a) Programme performance and implementation;

   (b) Proposed programme of work for the biennium 1994-1995;

   (c) United Nations Research Institute for Social Development.

7. Review of the world social situation.

8. Provisional agenda for the thirty-fourth session of the Commission.

9. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its thirty-third session.

Annex III

LIST OF DOCUMENTS BEFORE THE COMMISSION AT ITS THIRTY-THIRD SESSION

Document number	Agenda item	Title or description
A/47/339	4	Global targets on ageing for the year 2001: a practical strategy: report of the Secretary-General
A/47/349	4	Policies and programmes involving youth: report of the Secretary-General
A/47/369	4	Implementation of the International Plan of Action on Ageing: report of the Secretary-General
A/48/56-E/1993/6	4	Implementation of the Guiding Principles for Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes in the Near Future: report of the Secretary-General
E/1992/30	4	Report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its first session
E/1993/5	4	Progress achieved and obstacles encountered in implementing the social development goals and objectives of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade: report of the Secretary-General
E/1993/50 and Add.1	7	1993 Report on the World Social Situation
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E/CN.5/1993/2 and Add.1	4	Major issues and programme activities of the United Nations Secretariat and the regional commissions relating to social development and welfare and specific social groups: report of the Secretary-General
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Document number	Agenda item	Title or description
E/CN.5/1993/4	4	Report of the expert group meeting on a long-term strategy to further the implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons to the year 2000 and beyond: note by the Secretary-General
E/CN.5/1993/5	4	Report of the ad hoc open-ended working group to elaborate standard rules on the equalization of opportunities for disabled persons: note by the Secretary-General
E/CN.5/1993/6	5	Report of the Expert Group Meeting on the Social Consequences of Population Growth and Changing Social Conditions, with Particular Emphasis on the Family: note by the Secretary-General
E/CN.5/1993/7	4	Third review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Plan of Action on Ageing: report of the Secretary-General
E/CN.5/1993/8 and Corr.1	6 (c)	Report of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development
E/CN.5/1993/9	6 (c)	Nomination of members of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development: note by the Secretary-General
E/CN.5/1993/10	4	Draft calendar of activities to mark the tenth anniversary of the International Youth Year and draft world programme of action for youth towards the year 2000 and beyond: report of the Secretary-General
E/CN.5/1993/11	7	Critical social situation in Africa: report of the Secretary-General
E/CN.5/1993/12	4	Note verbale dated 29 October 1992 from the Permanent Mission of Finland to the international organizations at Vienna, addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the report of the international expert meeting entitled "Towards a competitive society in Central and Eastern Europe: social dimensions"

Document number	Agenda item	Title or description
E/CN.5/1993/CRP.1	6 (b)	Proposed programme of work for the biennium 1992-1993 and the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997
E/CN.5/1993/CRP.2	6 (a)	Draft elements of an evaluation questionnaire
E/CN.5/1993/CRP.3	6	Letter dated 8 February 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Commission for Social Development, transmitting an aide-memoire submitted by the Government of Austria concerning the question of restructuring units of the United Nations Secretariat in the economic, social and related fields
E/CN.5/1993/INF.1	-	Information for participants
E/CN.5/1993/L.1	2	Organization of work of the session: note by the Secretariat
E/CN.5/1993/L.2	3	United States of America: draft resolution
E/CN.5/1993/L.3	4	France: draft resolution
E/CN.5/1993/L.4 and Rev.1 and 2	4	Amendments submitted by the Chairman of the informal working group on disability to the report of the ad hoc open-ended working group to elaborate standard rules on the equalization of opportunities for disabled persons
E/CN.5/1993/L.5	4	Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman of the ad hoc informal working group on the third review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Plan of Action on Ageing
E/CN.5/1993/L.6	4	Draft decision submitted by the Chairman of the ad hoc informal working group on the third review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Plan of Action on Ageing
E/CN.5/1993/L.7	4	United States of America: draft resolution

Document number	Agenda item	Title or description
E/CN.5/1993/L.8	4	Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Germany, Madagascar, Malta, Poland, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Turkey, Ukraine, United States of America and Zimbabwe: draft resolution
E/CN.5/1993/L.9	4	Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman of the informal working group on disability
E/CN.5/1993/L.10	4	Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman of the informal working group on disability
E/CN.5/1993/L.11	4	Amendments submitted by the Chairman of the ad hoc open-ended working group on youth to the draft calendar of activities and the draft world programme of action contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the draft calendar of activities to mark the tenth anniversary of the International Youth Year and the draft world programme of action for youth towards the year 2000 and beyond
E/CN.5/1993/L.12 and Add.1-6	9	Draft report of the Commission
E/CN.5/1993/L.13	4	Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman of the ad hoc open-ended working group on youth
E/CN.5/1993/L.14	4	Cameroon, Chile, Dominican Republic, Ghana, Guinea, Haiti, Norway and Sweden: draft resolution
E/CN.5/1993/L.15	6 (c)	Denmark: draft resolution
E/CN.5/1993/L.16	3	Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole on the World Summit for Social Development
E/CN.5/1993/L.17	8	Draft provisional agenda for the thirty-fourth session of the Commission for Social Development: note by the Secretariat

Document number	Agenda item	Title or description
E/CN.5/1993/NGO/1	4	Statement submitted by the following non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council: CARE International, International Alliance of Women, International Council of Women, International Council on Social Welfare, International Federation of Business and Professional Women, Soroptimist International, Women's International Democratic Federation, World Veterans Federation, Zonta International (category I); Association for the Study of the World Refugee Problem, Caritas Internationalis (International Confederation of Catholic Charities), Disabled Peoples' International, International Catholic Child Bureau, International Council of Jewish Women, International Federation for Home Economics, International Federation of Disabled Workers and Civilian Handicapped, International Federation of Social Workers, International Kolping Society, International Road Safety Organisation, International Union of Family Organizations, Italian Centre of Solidarity, Pax Romana (International Catholic Movement for Intellectual and Cultural Affairs) (International Movement of Catholic Students), The Salvation Army, World Federation for Mental Health, World Federation of Methodist Women, World Leisure and Recreation Association, World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations, World Young Women's Christian Association (category II); European Union of Women, HelpAge International, International Association of Charities, International Inner Wheel, International Round Table for the Advancement of Counselling, World Organization for Early Childhood Education (Roster)

Document number	Agenda item	Title or description
E/CN.5/1993/NGO/2	4	Statement submitted by the following non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council: International Organization of Consumers Unions, International Planned Parenthood Federation, International Union of Family Organizations, Soroptimist International, Zonta International (category I); Associated Country Women of the World, Baha'i International Community, Caritas Internationalis (International Confederation of Catholic Charities), International Catholic Child Bureau, International Council of Jewish Women, International Council on Alcohol and Addictions, International Federation for Home Economics, International Federation of Social Workers, International Federation of University Women, International Kolping Society, Pax Romana (International Catholic Movement for Intellectual and Cultural Affairs) (International Movement of Catholic Students), Foundation for the Rights of the Family (PRODEFA), The Salvation Army, Women's International Zionist Organization, World Federation for Mental Health, World Leisure and Recreation Association, World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations (category II); European Union of Women, HelpAge International, International Association of Charities, International Inner Wheel, International Round Table for the Advancement of Counselling, Rotary International (Roster)
E/CN.5/1993/NGO/3	4	Statement submitted by the following non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council: World Veterans Federation, Zonta International (category I); Associated Country Women of the World, International Federation for Home Economics, International Federation of Disabled Workers and Civilian Handicapped, International Federation of University Women, Pax Romana (International Catholic

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		Movement for Intellectual and Cultural Affairs) (International Movement of Catholic Students), World Federation for Mental Health, World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations (category II); HelpAge International, International Association of Charities, International Inner Wheel (Roster)
E/CN.5/1993/NGO/4	4	Statement submitted by the following non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council: Foundation for the Rights of the Family (PRODEFA) (category II)
E/CN.5/1993/NGO/5	4	Statement submitted by the following non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council: International Federation of Disabled Workers and Civilian Handicapped (category II)
Working paper No. 1 and Rev.1 and 2	3	Chairman's working paper concerning the agenda for the World Summit for Social Development

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